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# MAD

The  
**20  
DUMBEST**

People, Events  
and Things

**2013**

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**Alex Rodriguez!**

**The U.S. Congress!**

**Anthony Weiner!**

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# MAD

## Departments

Constantly  
looking at your  
smartphone can  
really make you  
look stupid!



NUMBER 525  
FEBRUARY 2014

- 1** IT'S THE LIST WE CAN DO DEPARTMENT  
The MAD Table of Contents
- 2** LETTERS AND TOMATOES DEPARTMENT  
Random Samplings of Reader Mail
- 8** RANDOM ACTS OF MINDLESS DEPARTMENT  
The Fundalini Pages
- 12** SICK DEGREES OF KEVIN BACON DEPARTMENT  
"The Swallowing" (A MAD TV Satire)
- 18** JOKE AND DAGGER DEPARTMENT  
Spy vs. Spy



# THE MAD 20

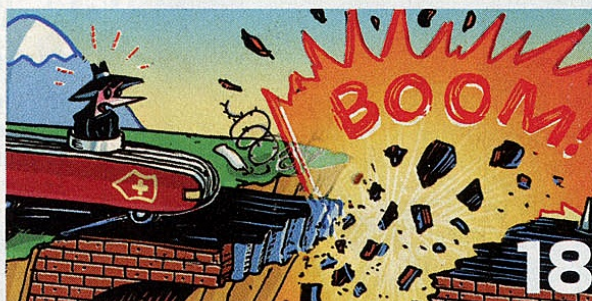
## THE DUMBEST PEOPLE, EVENTS & THINGS OF 2013



- 20** IN BLOG WE TRUST DEPARTMENT  
Planet Tad!!!!
- 48** PEN AND STINK DEPARTMENT  
The MAD Strip Club
- 52** SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPARTMENT  
A MAD Look at Sleepovers
- 56** OUR DAILY DREAD DEPARTMENT  
The Best of the Idiotical



**MARGINAL THINKING DEPARTMENT**  
"Drawn Out Dramas" by Sergio Aragonés  
...Various Places Around the Magazine



COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

MAD 20 INTRO PAGE PHOTOGRAPHY: IRVING SCHILD



# Letters and Tomatoes



## NOTHING TO FEAR BUT SPHERE ITSELF

In your October issue #523, and in your intended-to-be-funny "The Great Outdoors" catalog, you have mentioned the "The Sheep Balls Cookbook." Herewith I would like to highlight some facts about cooking sheep balls so the common MAD readers may not be misled by your catalog. Actually, sheep balls are a very delicious Middle Eastern delicacy and normally served as a starter or Mezza. Some of the best ways to prepare them is to grill and serve them with lemon sauce or to lightly fry and serve them with some chopped herbs and spices. Since sheep balls are one of my favorite dishes, I am considering preparing them the way you have suggested in your catalog: roasted, with honey, thyme and jalapeño. It sounds like a delicious way to prepare them. I am seriously serious about that.

Manar Jawad • Essen, Germany

**The Six Million Dollar Manar** — Sadly, you've exposed us as the unworldly brutes we actually are. Sure, we put on fancy airs, but none of us has ever been out of state, let alone overseas. So in an attempt to undo the damage caused by our comedic exceptionalism, we cooked up a steaming pot of sheep balls in your honor! How did we like it, you ask? To make a long story short: most of our sick days have been wiped out, the carpets have needed multiple steam-cleanings and the company kitchen has been airing out for days. Thanks for setting us straight, Manar — you've reminded us why we've never gone anywhere! —Ed.

## MAD BLURBS PART 1

In a recent article posted on *Entertainment Weekly's* site, Guillermo Del Toro talked about creating the opening credits for the most recent *Simpsons* Treehouse of Horrors episode:

*Del Toro wound up creating a mash-up love letter to all sorts of his horror/fantasy inspirations in paying tribute to The Simpsons, while taking a page from MAD magazine's Mort Drucker, Will Elder and Harvey Kurtzman. "They would try to cram so many references in," he says. "You as a kid could spend an afternoon on your bed with your magnifying glass going through a frame of MAD magazine and finding all these references to this and that."*



## MAD CELEBRITY SNAP! NIFTY FIFTY EDITION!



Raffaele Petrucci of Los Angeles, CA sent in this awesome Celebrity Snap of Thor himself, Chris Hemsworth! And since Hemsworth is on our Nifty Fifty list of Celebrity Snaps, Raffaele will not only get all of this issue's giveaways, but he'll also get a two-year MAD subscription! AND, because this is one of the first six Nifty Fifty Celebrity Snaps that we're running, Raffaele ALSO gets a limited edition "flocked" "Batman Black and White" statue by Sergio Aragonés! So start sending in those pics and let us shower you with love!



## THE MONSTER MASH-UP

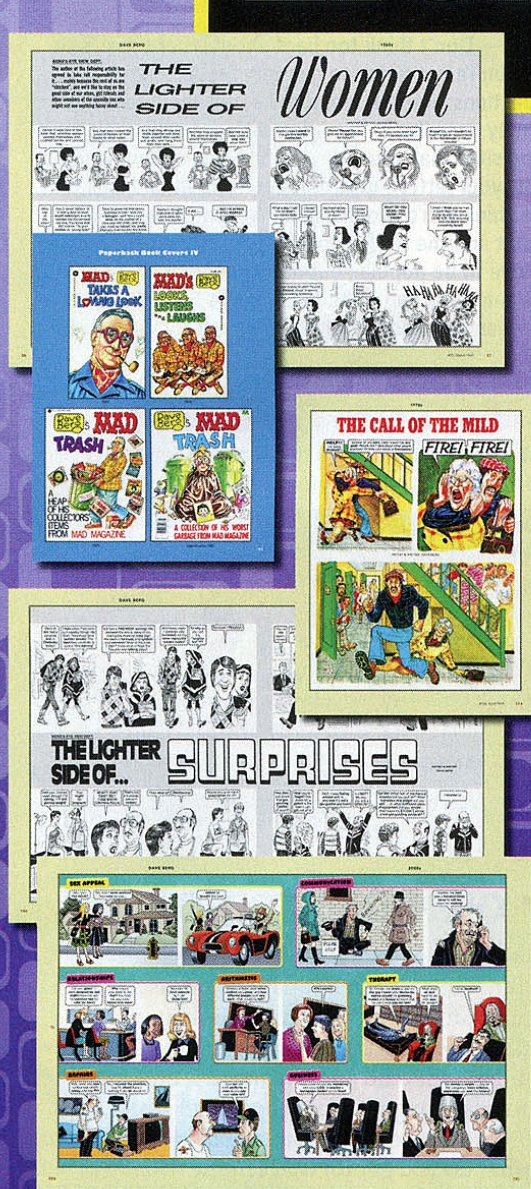
I would like if you could feature any of these parodies in future issues of MAD. I'm not expecting you to put these into your magazines, but if you do you can play around with them as much as you want. Anyways, here are the parodies me, August and Brayden (my two best friends) came up with for horror movies: "Nightmare on Elmo Street," "Fed-Exorcist," "Clash of the Tight-Pants," "Barney the 13th" and "Paranormal Activity Books."

Carter Green • Medina, NY

**The Bigger They Come, the Carter They Fall** — We're tempted to fill five or six pages of our next issue with one of your titles, but we can't decide on *which one* to use. Senior Editor Joe Raiola is arguing vociferously for "Barney the 13th" — he's wanted to see Baby Bop hacked to pieces for years — while Senior Editor Charlie Kadau is arguing just as forcefully for "Clash of the Tight-Pants," as he's secretly turned on by the Kraken. So while we'd like nothing more than to make you, August and Brayden rich and famous, this stalemate likely spells doom for your pitch. As a consolation, though, you guys do get to see your names printed on the same letters page as a guy who eats sheep balls. It doesn't get much better, does it? —Ed.



# Take a walk on THE LIGHTER SIDE!

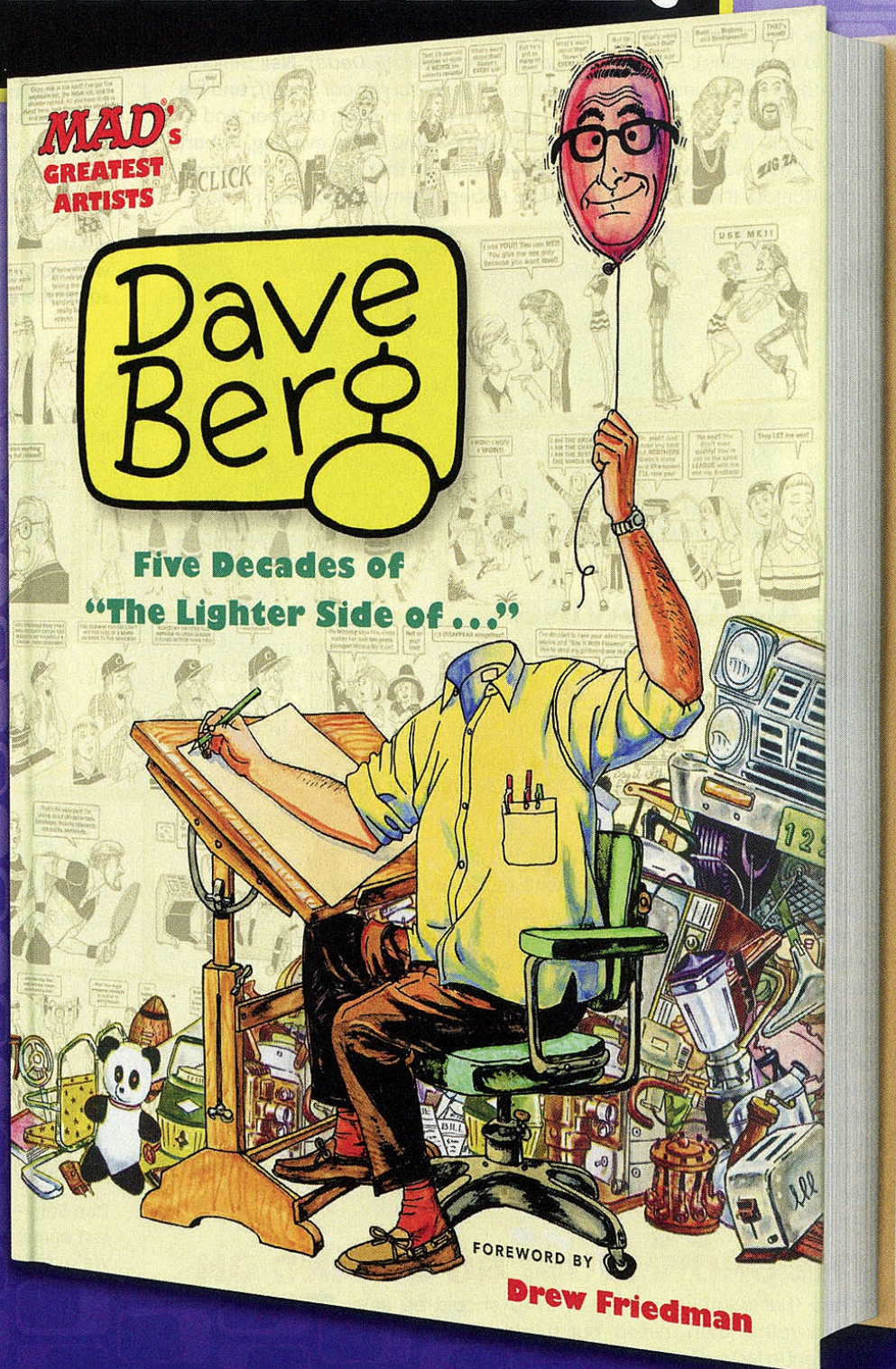


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# Letters and Tomatoes



## TCM: B-A-D

We don't know how it happened (legal threats, bodily harm, etc.) but somehow Dick DeBartolo, MAD's Maddest Writer (and the Giz Wiz) got to co-host an entire evening of movie satires with his Turner Classic Movies idol, Robert Osborne. Dick selected four of his favorite honest-to-goodness satires (vs. plain old comedies). His picks: Woody Allen's *Love & Death*; Neil Simon's *Murder by Death*; a lesser-known satire, *Support Your Local Sheriff*; and his very favorite, *This is Spinal Tap*. The program aired in early October, and to TCM's credit, it will not be repeated. Throughout the entire evening, Robert "proudly" (his word) wore an Alfred E. Neuman pin that Dick had presented to him. Rumors that Dick sold the pin to Robert seem groundless...for now.



## THE ART OF SAVING

I have been buying your magazine for a long time and you have always included the word CHEAP! next to the price. Have you noticed that with today's inflation and poor economy, \$5.99 (plus tax) IS NOT CHEAP! When MAD costs more than a gallon of gasoline, there's something terribly wrong! Of course you'll be cordial in inviting me to subscribe and save big, so that the word CHEAP will really mean something.

**Troy Edwardes • Fairfield, CA**

**Troy Story** — Had we "noticed that with today's inflation and poor economy, \$5.99 (plus tax) is not cheap"? Of course we hadn't, dear boy! Ever since we began charging so much for our magazine, we've become fabulously, despicably wealthy — in the process completely losing touch with the common man! Sure, we're sometimes forced to speak to our chauffeurs — and on occasion our personal valets need to know which Rolex we're in the mood for — but for the most part, our days are filled with expansive penthouse views and perfectly-chilled flutes of Armand de Brignac. Now, we must be off — our fleet of private jets is waiting to whisk us off to a weekend at the roulette tables in Monaco — but first, we cordially invite you to subscribe by visiting [SubscribeMadMagazine.com](http://SubscribeMadMagazine.com) or calling 1-800-4-MADMAG! Who knows — with the money you'll save by subscribing, you might be able to buy you and your other hobo friends a can or two of beans! —Ed.

## THE SHOW MUST GO ON AND ON

It's rare that anything related to MAD should be celebrated, rather than reviled, but this may just be the exception! In November, Cartoon Network aired the 100th episode of MAD! A huge congratulations to Peter Girardi, Sam Register, Kevin Shinick, Mark Marek and the rest of the team who tarnished MAD's reputation by putting our name on something that was actually successful!



## MISINFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY

I noticed the Facebook insert in your "Letters and Tomatoes" department demanding that we "Like" you and I began to think what there is to like about you. I don't "feel good" about the Internet as it is. How can you feel good about an information station with social sites? And, besides, how popular do you guys wanna get?

**Fred Garzone • Philadelphia, PA**

**Dawn of the Fred** — Don't think too hard about what there is to like about us — you're not going to get very far. As to your incisive, probing questions: you can feel good about the Internet (or, as you so succinctly describe it, "an information station with social sites") by visiting sites that you enjoy. Need some recommendations? Judging by your letter's questionable content and shaky handwriting, we think you'd probably like WeepingSores.com, RhinoRomance.net and the Huffington Post. As to your second question: we'd love to be popular, but not so popular that we can't walk outside for our daily bag of Andy Capp Hot Fries. In short, somewhere between Leonardo DiCaprio and Fred Garzone. —Ed.

## LIKE MAD ON FACEBOOK!

We're on Facebook! You should go there and "Like" us. Go on... it'll make you feel good about the Internet! (Even you, Garzone!)



## PLENTY OF NAME TO GO AROUND

It is no secret that your fine (feh) publication has a colorful history of poking fun at readers' names. Heck, it might be some kind of time-honored tradition or something. Well, my name is Daniel Goodroad and I've heard it all. Going back as far as my days in grammar school. Bad street, bad path...I dunno...beefy face (grammar-school kids aren't that creative). So, what do you got for me? Hit me with your best shot. And if you think you can just throw out some hackneyed play on "Dan," well, that's your prerogative. But will you be able to look yourself in the mirror in the morning?

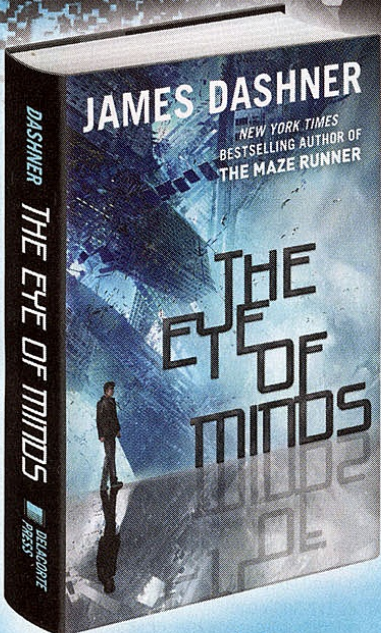
**Daniel Goodroad • St. Paul, MN**

**Dan Solo** — We were tempted to make fun of your ridiculous last name, but as you can see from our dreadful "Dan Solo" pun, we're much more interested in throwing out a hackneyed play on "Dan." After all, as you know from reading MAD, hackneyed humor is our stale, flavorless bread and butter! As to being able to look ourselves in the mirror, that's something we've never done with much success. For one thing, none of us are particularly attractive, and for another, considering where our lives have taken us, we're none too eager to stare into the barren wastelands of our hideously misspent existences. Now where were we? Oh, that's right — thanks for writing, Wu-Tang Dan! —Ed.



# THE EYE OF MINDS

New from JAMES DASHNER, *New York Times* Bestselling  
Author of **THE MAZE RUNNER**



When a cyber-terrorist holds the virtual world hostage, it will take a hacker to catch a hacker. Enter the back alleys and dark corners of the VirtNet, where the line between game and reality will be blurred forever.

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Poster illustration by John Van Fleet.



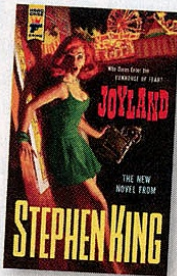
# Letters and Tomatoes

## MAD BLURBS PART 2

MAD gets mentioned in *Joyland*, Stephen King's recent novel! King has said that he will be retiring soon, which makes sense — when you start name-dropping MAD in your work, it's definitely time to pack it in!

"He shook his finger at me. 'Sarcasm will get you nowhere in life, boy. Unless you're angling for a writing job at Mad Magazine, that is.'"

—From *Joyland* by Stephen King



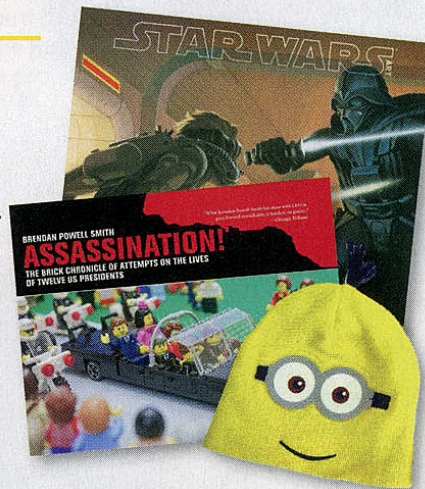
## A (HEADLESS) BODY OF WORK

Recently, MAD's own Al Jaffee was presented with this life-sized bust (emphasis on bust!) by artist Linda Shea, who covered it with MAD art from dozens of issues. Shea was a school teacher in California who was such a huge MAD fan, she introduced every kid in her classes to MAD (before eventually being stripped of her license and turning to art, we assume!)



## READER ALERT

If you had your letter printed in this issue, hoooo boy are you in for some goodness. You'll be getting Blu-ray/DVD combo sets of both *Fast & Furious 6* and *Despicable Me 2* — plus a Minion beanie! — all from our chums at Universal Studios Home Entertainment; *Star Wars Art: Concept*, from our buds at Abrams Books; *Assassination!: The Brick Chronicle of Attempts on the Lives of Twelve U.S. Presidents*, from our amigos at Skyhorse Publishing, Inc.; the 3-DVD set, *The History of WWE: 50 Years of Sports Entertainment* from our compadres at WWE; and one randomly-selected DC Universe Pop! Vinyl figure from our pals at Funko! If you didn't get these goodies, don't beat yourself up — they're all on sale now! But maybe next time you'll write us a letter, eh, cubby?



### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION

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Dan DiDio, Co-Publisher, MAD, October 31, 2013

# MAD

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MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope! MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!

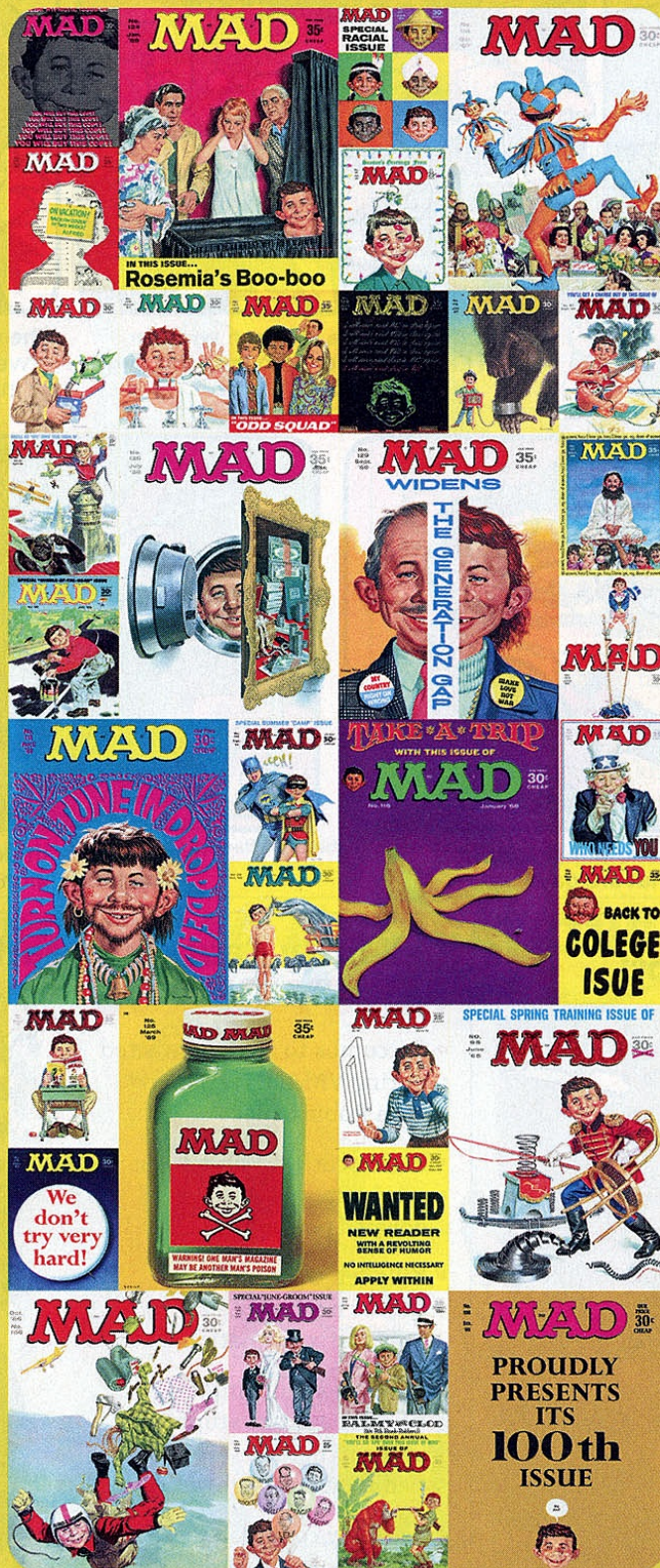
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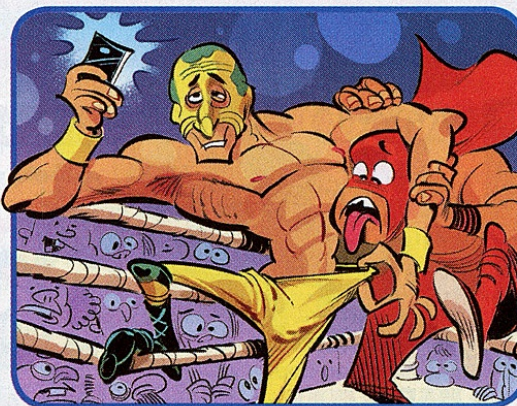


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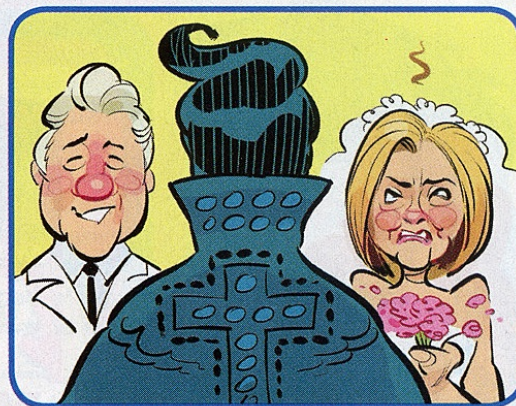
## SECRETS EDWARD SNOWDEN IS STILL SITTING ON



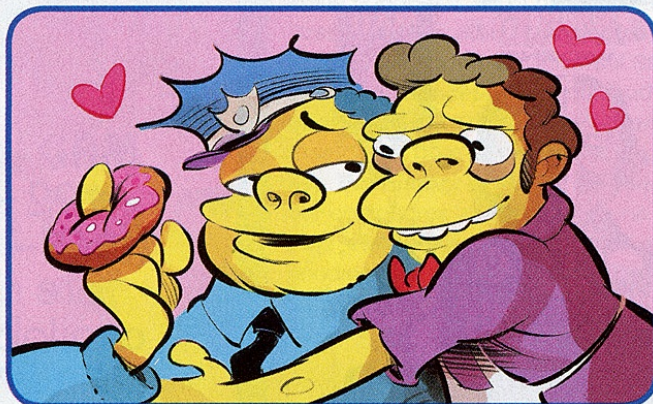
President Obama's free throw percentage in White House pickup games is a lousy 64%



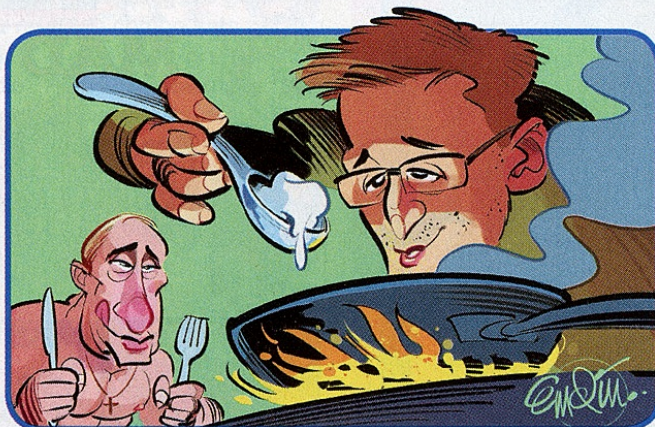
Ironically, there's a Mexican wrestler named Carlos Danger who uses the ring name "Antonio Weiner"



The minister who officiated at the Clintons' wedding was not licensed, meaning Bill never technically committed adultery



The identities of two additional *Simpsons* characters that are gay



The secret to a thicker, tastier omelette?  
One tablespoon of cream cheese

Writer: Jeff Kruse Artist: Anton Emdin

## Eckstein Marks the Spot!

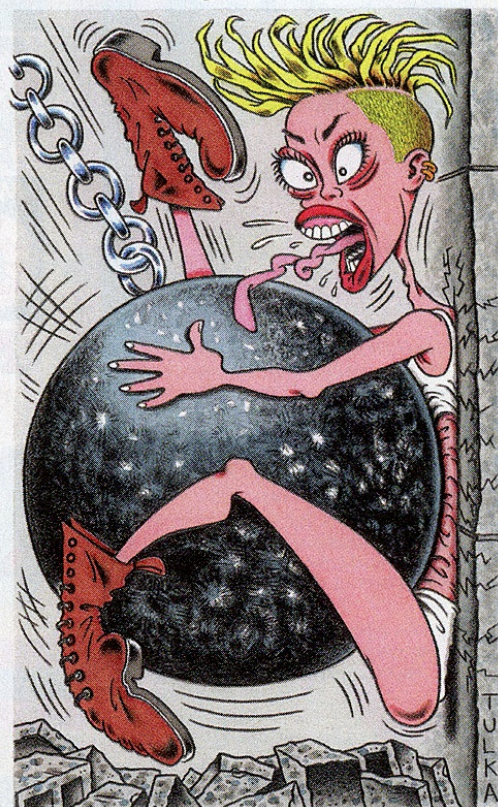


KING KONG 2013

bob

## Celebrity Cause-of-Death Betting Odds MILEY CYRUS

- Succumbs to STD contracted during VMA performance with Robin Thicke.....**4:1**
- Electrocuted when tongue accidentally touches downed power line.....**10:1**
- Kills self when ass cheeks no longer able to transfix the nation.....**25:1**
- Massive aneurysm when those two stupid knots in her hair are tied much too tight.....**48:1**
- Felled by congenital achy breaky heart defect.....**75:1**
- Crushed by catastrophic crane malfunction while filming video for "Wrecking Ball" remix.....**200:1**





## Downton Abbey Character or Drag Queen?

- |                     |                      |                                       |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Lady Chablis     | 5. James St. James   | 10. Charles Pierce                    |
| 2. Francis Leon     | 6. Mary Dale         | 11. Amber LeMay of the House of LeMay |
| 3. The Widow Norton | 7. Dame Edna Everage | 12. Rickard Engfors                   |
| 4. Julian Eltinge   | 8. Michelle DuBarry  | 13. Issan Dorsey                      |
|                     | 9. Victoria Parker   |                                       |

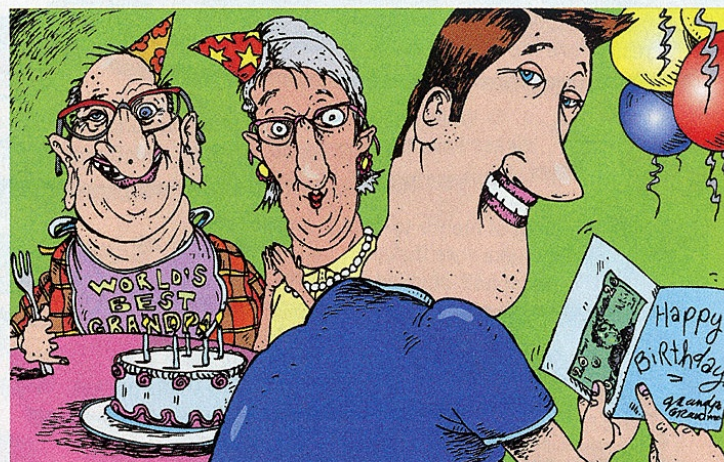


**ANSWERS:** Trick question — they're all drag queens! And you call yourself cultured!

Writer: Matt Lassen Artist: Justin Peterson

## The Fast 5 CLEVER WAYS TO GET RID OF YOUR STUDENT LOANS

- 1 Wait until your parents die from the stress of working to support you, then use your inheritance to pay off the loans.
- 2 Visit your elderly grandparents every week and tell them it's your birthday. At \$20 a visit, your \$50,000 loan will be licked in just under 50 years!



- 3 Figure out how to manage your money by taking a class at the local college.
- 4 Get everyone you know to sponsor you for a marathon, then run one five times a week, indefinitely.
- 5 It's simple: just take out another loan.

Writer: Matt Lassen  
Artist: Kevin Pope

## RAND PAUL RESPONDS TO ACCUSATIONS OF PLAGIARISM

Hello, I'm Kentucky Senator Rand Paul. Recently, people have taken a closer look at many of my speeches and writings. They're charging that I plagiarized, copied and in some cases cut and pasted pages of material from the Associated Press, think tank studies, various articles and Wikipedia.

I welcome this kind of examination, because people have got to know whether or not their future president is a crook. Well, I am not a crook.

For the past two weeks you have been reading about the bad break I got. Yet today I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth. And yet my critics beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past. Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn — the only thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about.



Still, how dare they accuse me of plagiarism? I cannot tell a lie: I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat. Nobody puts Baby in a corner!

This has damaged my political brand, which is based on my unique personal vision: I think, therefore I am. If you build it, they will come. Genius is 1% inspiration, 99% perspiration.

Listen closely when I say this, footnote police: tread lightly. I am the one who knocks. I have always depended on the kindness of strangers. Help will always be given at Hogwarts to those who ask for it. I want to take a ride on your disco stick. Not the bees! Not the bees!!!

And so, farewell from your little droog. Hasta la vista, baby! Seacrest...out!

Writer:  
Desmond Devlin  
Artist:  
Tom Bunk



## MEDICALERT BRACELETS WE'LL SEE NOW THAT OBESITY IS A "DISEASE"

\* My pulse can be taken between the sixth and seventh folds on the right-center of my side-neck.

If my windpipe is blocked with food, please attempt to flush it through with Cherry-Vanilla Dr Pepper.

\* If I am in a coma, please do not attempt to resuscitate me until the McRib is being offered again.

\* While being transported to the hospital, please have the ambulance swing by a McDonald's.

In the event of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, please make sure that your own mouth is full of half-chewed Junior Mints.

\* In case of low blood sugar, there is an emergency ham sandwich in my pants pocket.

\* If I have passed out in a TGI Fridays, please make sure that my "Get Me More Stripes" card is credited accordingly before removing me from the premises.

\* If there is any danger of me swallowing my tongue, instead of putting a wallet in my mouth, please use a well-marinated rib-eye.

Artist: Bob Staake

## A Walk in the Parkhurst



"So you think you're just going to go and die for everyone's sins — well, not with THAT hair you're not!"

Writer and Artist: Teresa Burns Parkhurst

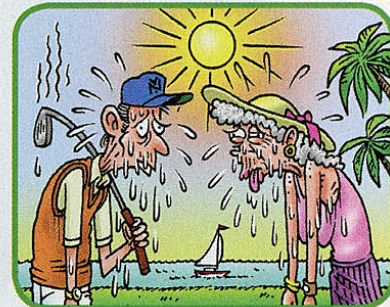
## 6 Degrees of Separation Between Anyone and Anything CAN YOU LINK THE POLAR ICE CAPS TO TIM TEBOW?

Writer: Stan Sinberg Artist: John Kerschbaum



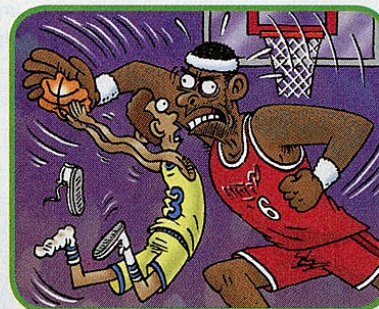
### The Polar Ice Caps

are constantly  
shrinking in size, as are...



### Old People

who move from up north  
to Miami, as did...



### LeBron James

who blocks a  
lot of shots, as do...



### Bodyguards

who provide undercover  
protection, as do...



### Condoms

which can sit unused,  
for years, as does...



### Tim Tebow!

## The WeissAcre

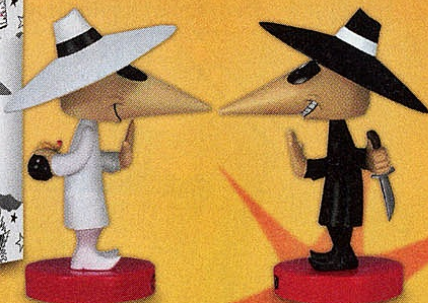


"YEAH, SORRY FOR LEERING. MY INTERNET'S DOWN."

Writer and Artist: Steven Weissman



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**Disclaimer: Viewer Discretion Advised.****The Following Program is rated: TV 14**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>L</b> Language   | <b>TS</b> Throat Slashing                  |
| <b>V</b> Violence   | <b>EG2</b> Eyes Gouged every 2 episodes    |
| <b>G</b> Gruesomeness   | <b>TVC</b> Will make you Toss Your Cookies |
| <b>B</b> Blood  | <b>D</b> Dismemberment                     |
| <b>MB</b> More Blood  | <b>DE</b> Decapitation                     |
| <b>ES</b> Ear Slitting  | <b>DIS</b> Disembowelment                  |
| <b>YMB</b> Yet More Blood   |  |
| <b>SS</b> Side Splitting (not side-splitting laughter. Just side splitting) |  |
| <b>NRWWD</b> Not Recommended for fans of Well-Written, hour-long Dramas     |  |

And so we begin the FOX series in which Kevin Bacon plays an alcoholic FBI agent with a pacemaker, called out of retirement to track down a weird, bloody cult obsessed with the poet Edgar Allan Poe. This show's premise is so patently absurd and unbelievable, it's a wonder the producers were able to attract enough fans willing to do...

I'm ex-FBI agent **Ruin Hottie**. I've been stabbed in the heart and have a **pacemaker**. I'm also a **borderline alcoholic** with **zero personality**. Yet somehow I'm the guy the FBI called out of retirement to catch maniac **Joe Carver**! Some people have compared me to **Jack Bauer** of 24. They're **wrong**! Jack Bauer was a detached, dour, emotionless investigator. I'm not as **upbeat** or as **perky** as Bauer. Welcome to **Six Degrees of Kevin Boredom**!

I'm a dedicated FBI man and the field partner to **Ruin Hottie**. This guy is a **rock star**! I would do **anything** for him. The **big question** is: would I take a **bullet** for Hottie? Yes, I would take a bullet for him. In fact, last Thursday I took a case of **two dozen full metal jackets** from the FBI munitions depot and gave it to **Hottie** so that he could re-load. Would I actually take one in the chest for him? Come on. I said I was dedicated, not **nutso**!

**CULT LEADERS**

I'm FBI agent **Dulla Pucker**. I was **born** to be in law enforcement. I was the only kid whose **doll house** was wrapped in **yellow crime scene tape**! When my older brother teased me, I'd **tase** him and lock him in the **shed**! I once arrested my **Betsy Wetsie** doll for **public urination**! I'm going to get **Joe Carver** or die trying. **Oops! Spoiler alert!**

**Nuke Donovan**, supervising agent of the **Cult Investigative Team**. I'm a **career FBI man**! I can't believe how **"soft"** the bureau's gotten. We captured **Dillinger**, grabbed **Capone**, roughed up **John Gotti** and the **Unabomber**. Now we can't take down a **poetry-obsessed death cult**! What's next? The gang from **Glee** dousing us with **fruit smoothies**?





# THE SWALLOWING

WRITER: ARNIE KOGEN

ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND

You guessed it. I'm Joe Carver! Hmm. Let's see. How can I describe myself? Okay, try this: hire a cook. Have her get a mixing bowl. Toss in a bit of Hannibal Lecter, a touch of Charles Manson, garnish with a little Ted Bundy and Jack the Ripper. Stir it all together. Then kill the cook. That's me!

I'm Dilemma, and these are my friends, Jocko and Pill. We are definitely the creepiest, weirdest trio on TV. Ever!

Are we gay?  
Are we straight?  
Are we bi?  
Are we hetero?  
Are we from planet Earth?

It's a crazy dynamic. When the three of us are alone in a room we never know whether it's going to end in sex or someone being slashed to pieces.

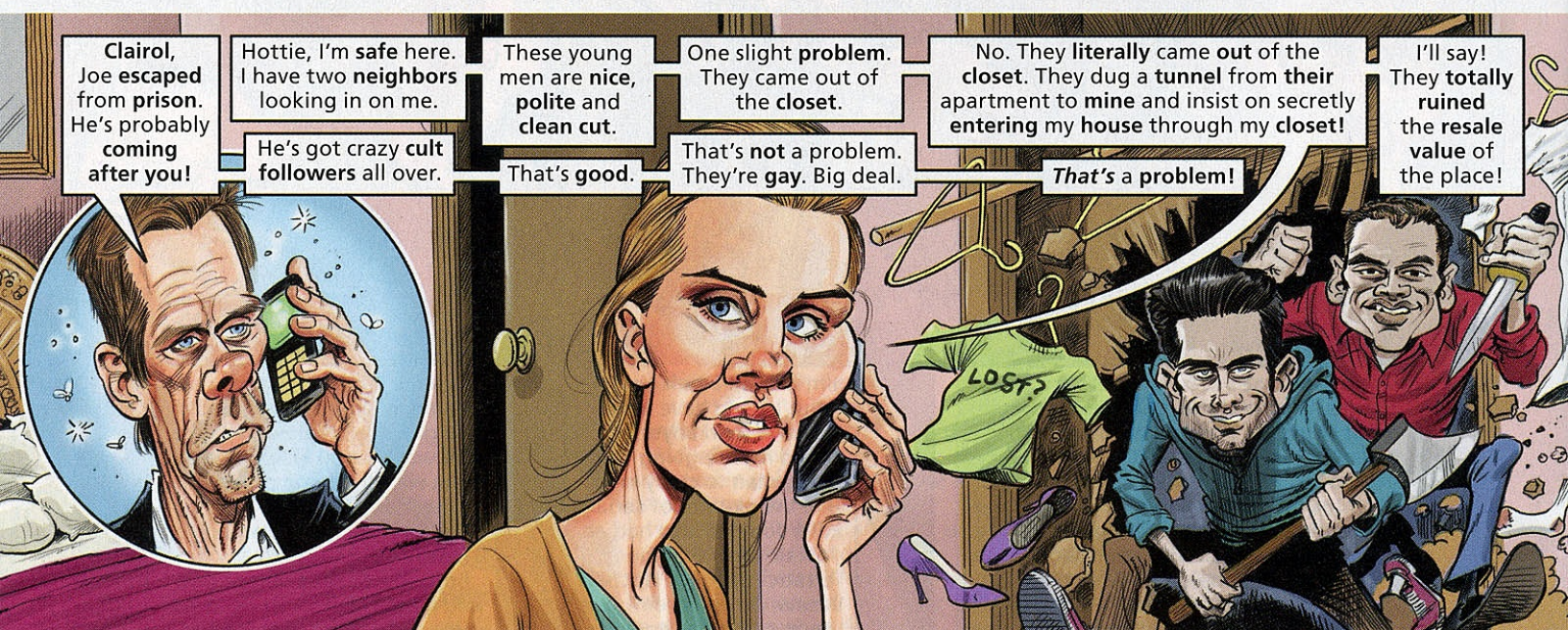
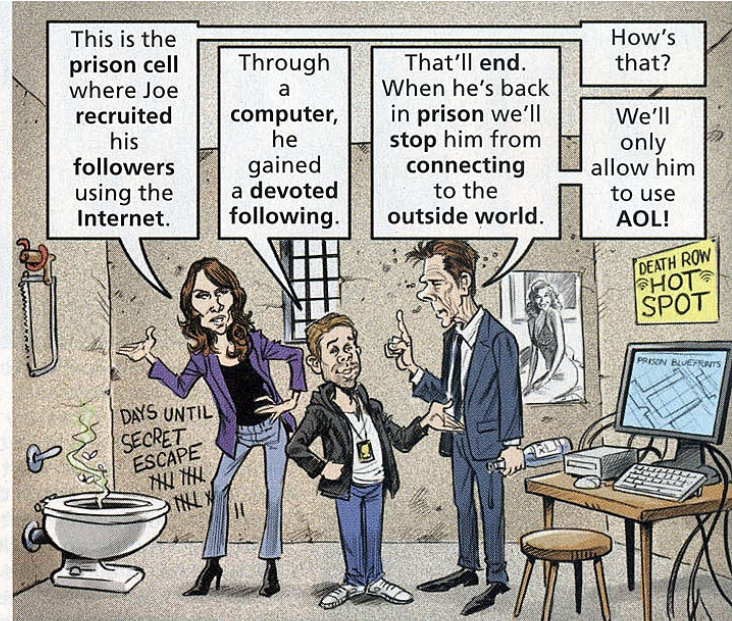
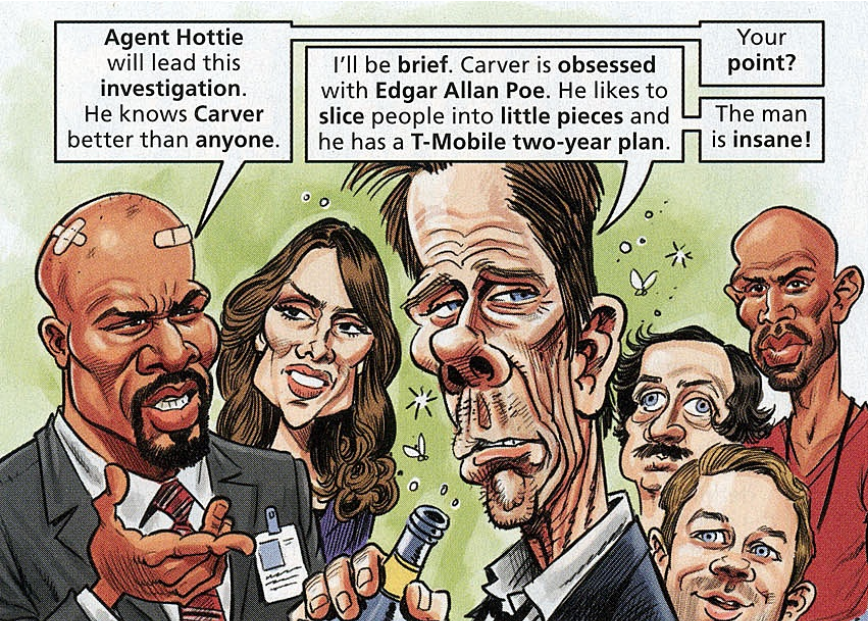
Either way you look at it, it's a win-win!

Somehow Joe's cult followers are everywhere. We are clerks, salesmen, students, rocket scientists and law enforcement. If you haven't already guessed, I'm not the rocket scientist. I'm Nightstick, a state trooper and Joe's right hand man. If anyone gives Joe trouble I hack off their right hand! I also gouge eyes, crush bodies under tractors and carve up people into little pieces and deposit their remains in different counties. Kids in the cult have given me a nickname. They call me "The Voice of Reason"!

I'm Clairol. I look normal but I could have more issues than anyone. I spend my life going from crazy man to crazy man. I'm the ex-wife of serial killer Joe and also had an affair with the moody, erratic FBI agent Hottie. Whew, do I pick 'em! Just once, couldn't I hook up with a nice dry-cleaner?

Call me Fred. It's not my real name, of course... but would you give your real name if your dad was a serial killer and your mom was dreaming of romance with a dry-cleaner? And you thought the kid in *Two and a Half Men* grew up in a weird household! Speaking of *Two and a Half Men*...that describes my dad's three best friends after one of them annoyed him!

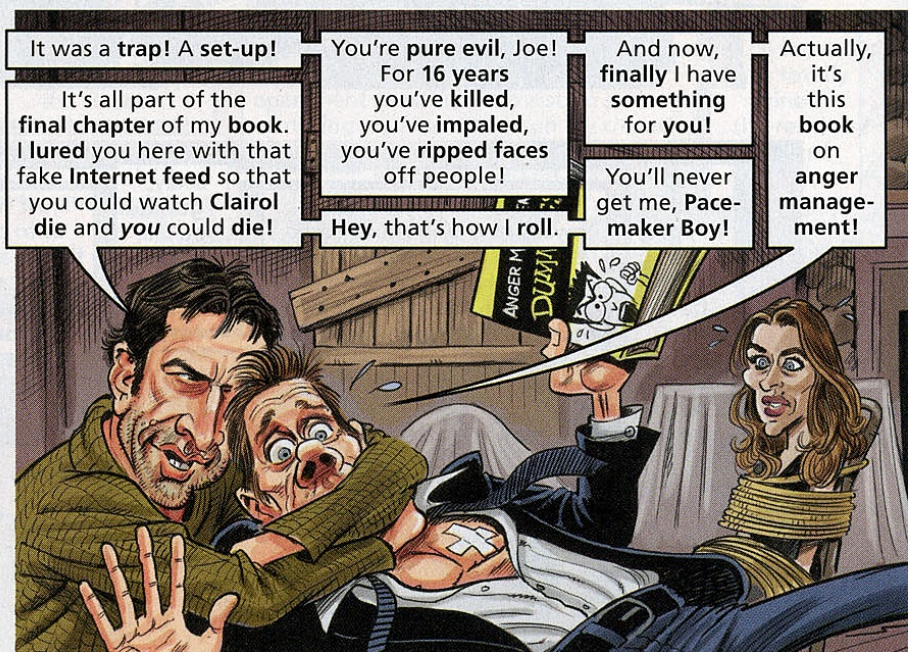
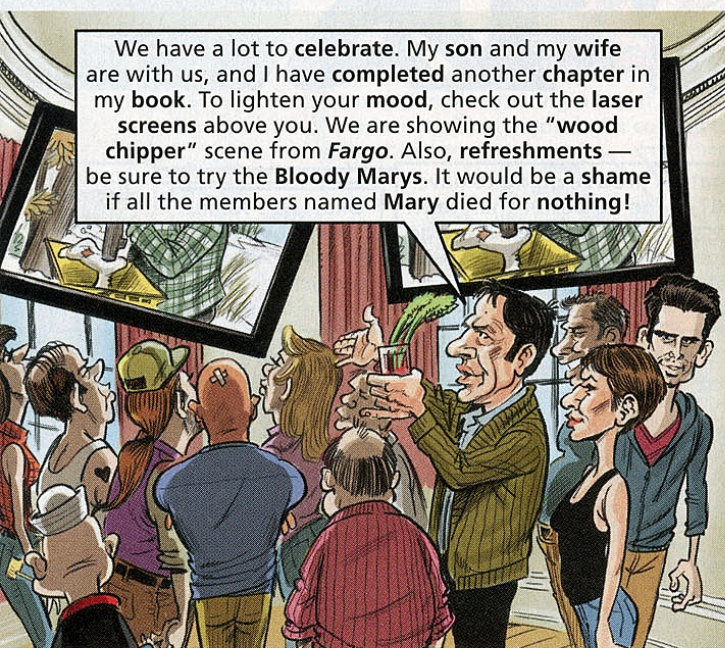
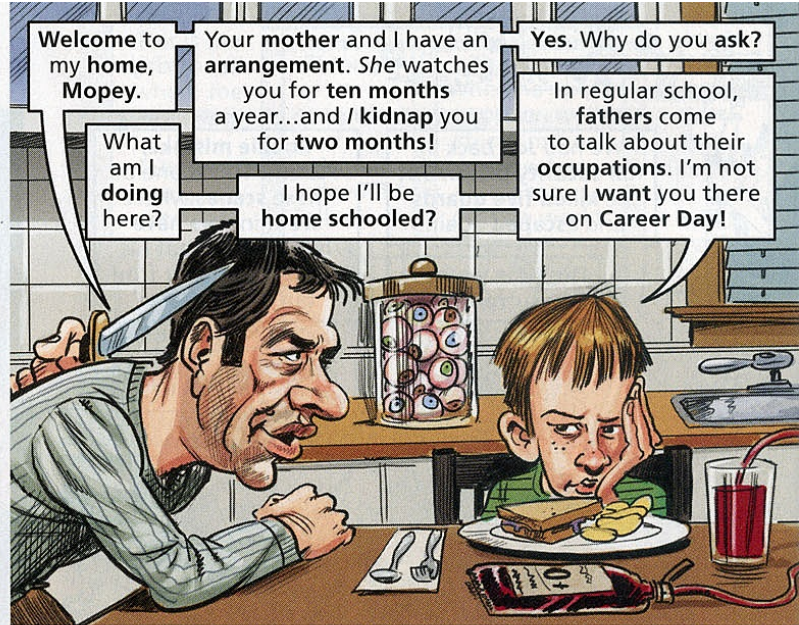
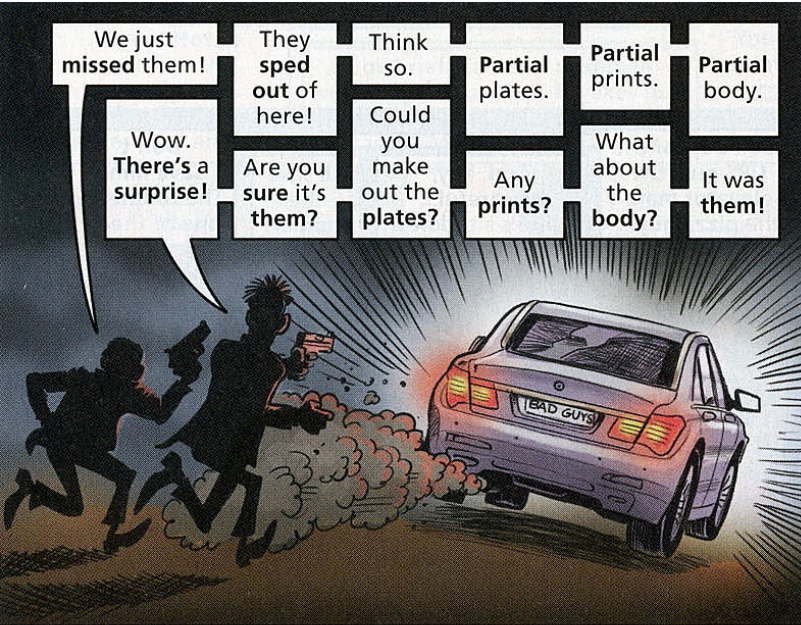














Joe's dead. We're perfectly safe in this abandoned, isolated cabin in the middle of nowhere.

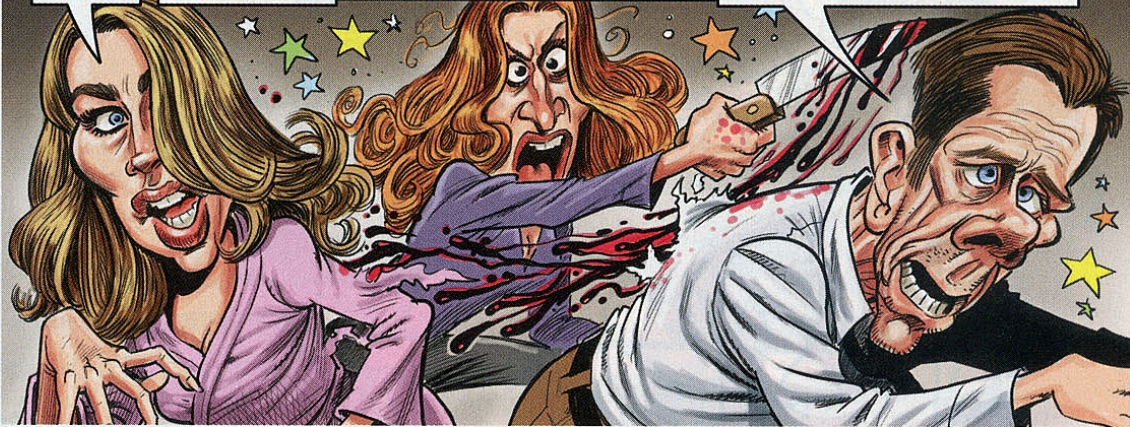
Really? Ya think?

Whoa! Who's the visitor? Why is she slashing us?

It's Hysteria, an ex-girl-friend of mine. She joined Joe's cult and now wants revenge!

So many questions: why are they always young and pretty? Why is it always knives and ice picks and never guns? How do they know exactly where we are? And... why wasn't the door locked?

Those are good. Here are mine: how can a failed lit professor and lunatic writer afford an 18th-century mansion, a 50-acre estate and private helicopter rentals? Also, why haven't I smiled since the early scenes of *A Few Good Men*?



Whew. A lot of damage in that final episode.

Yeah, our ratings spiked. We even edged out *Ice Road Truckers*!

Okay, Let's take a body count. Fiendish cult leader, Joe Carver...?

Dead!

FBI Agent Pucker...?

Dead!

What about Agent Hottie?

Could be living. Could be dead. With his facial expression, hard to tell.

Agent Donovan?

After 18 years, Donovan quit the Bureau. Couldn't take all the misery and despair! He joined the Chicago Cubs as a coach!



It was a tough year. I was beaten to a pulp in, like, 12 of the 15 episodes, but I'm looking forward to next season.

There may not be a next season.

What are you talking about?

There've been complaints this series is way too graphic. It's creeping a lot of people out.

You mean the censors? The viewers?

No, these people! It's creeping THEM out!

This has gotta stop! This show is giving serial killers a bad name!

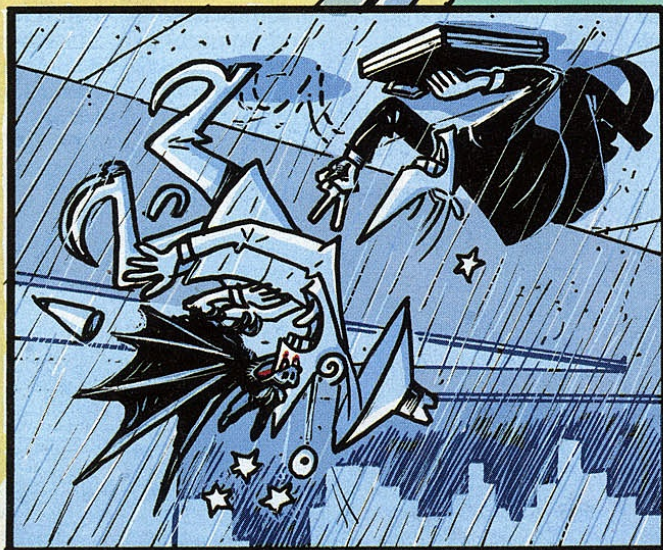
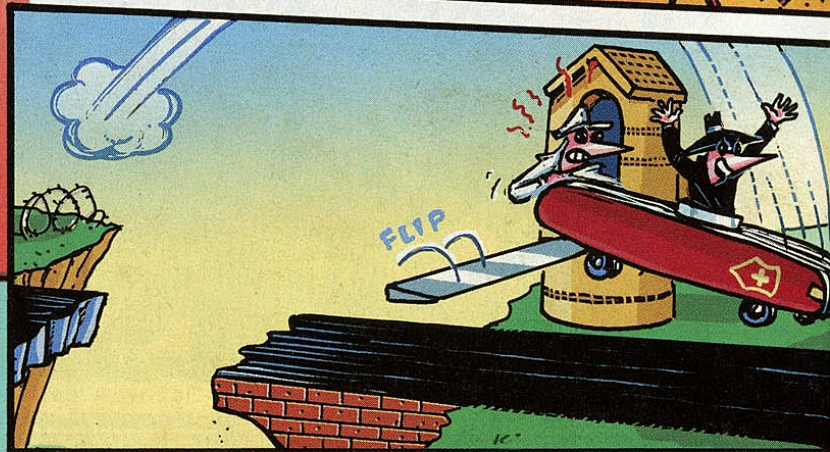
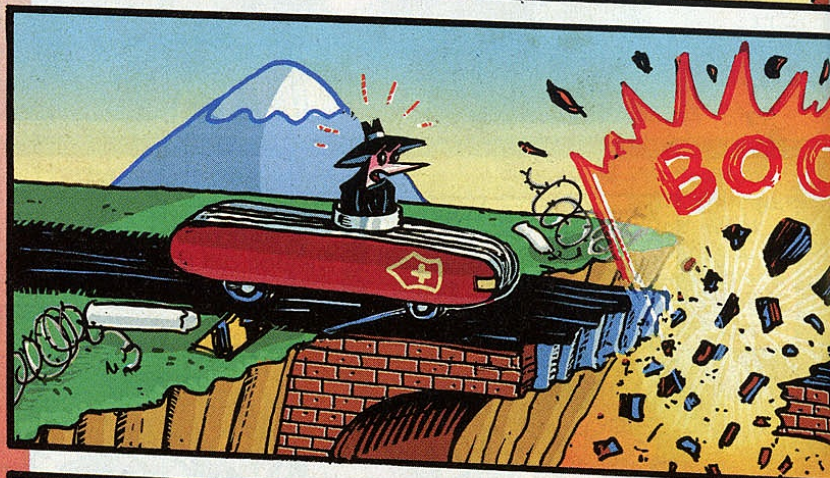
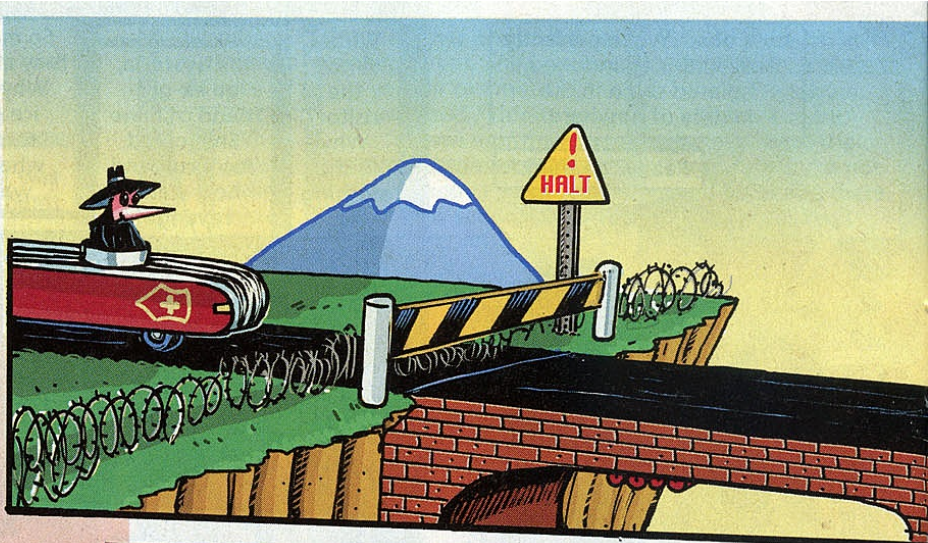
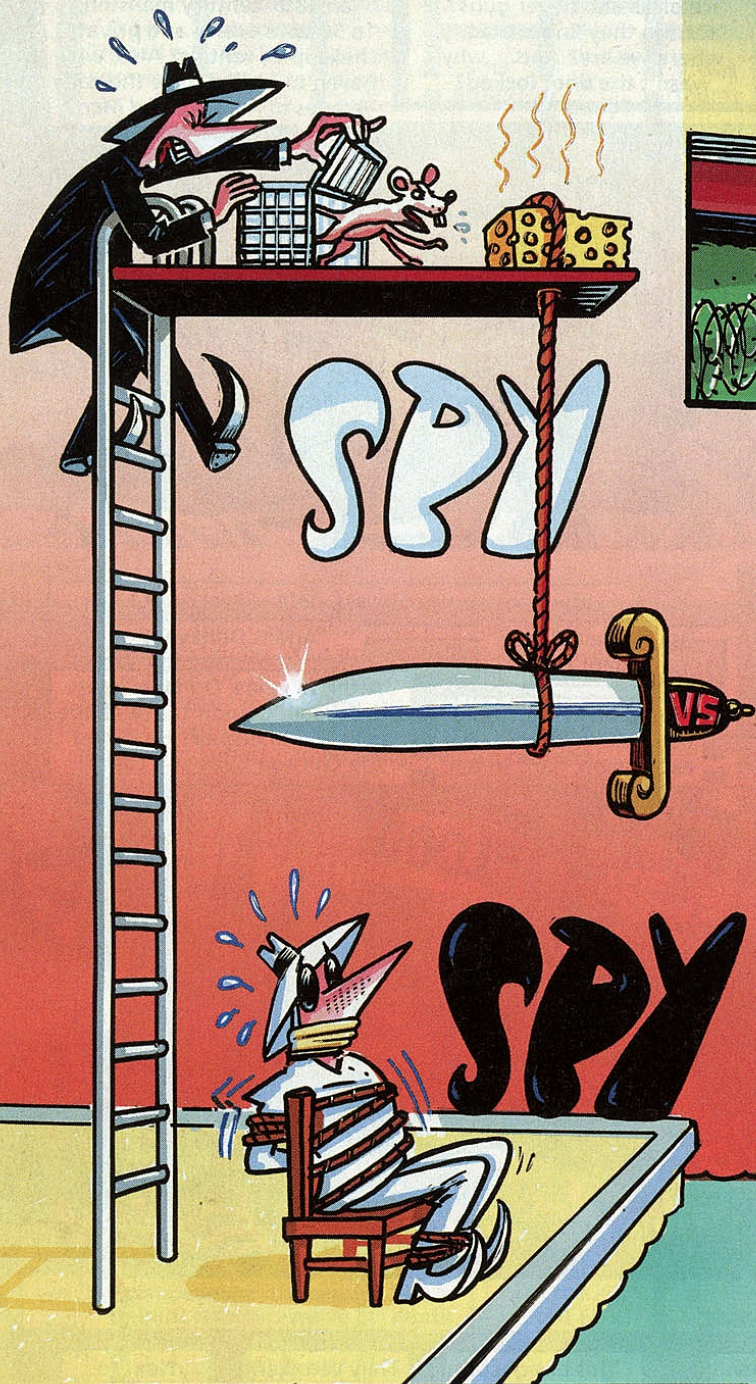
It's f\*&#ing gross!

They've taken blood splatter and stomach-churning violence and brought it to a despicably low level!

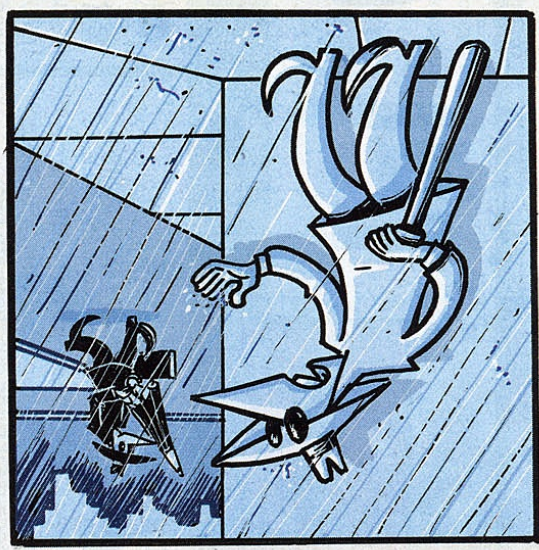
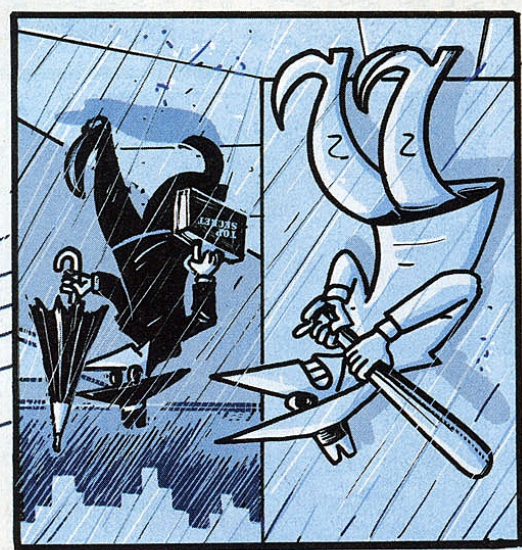
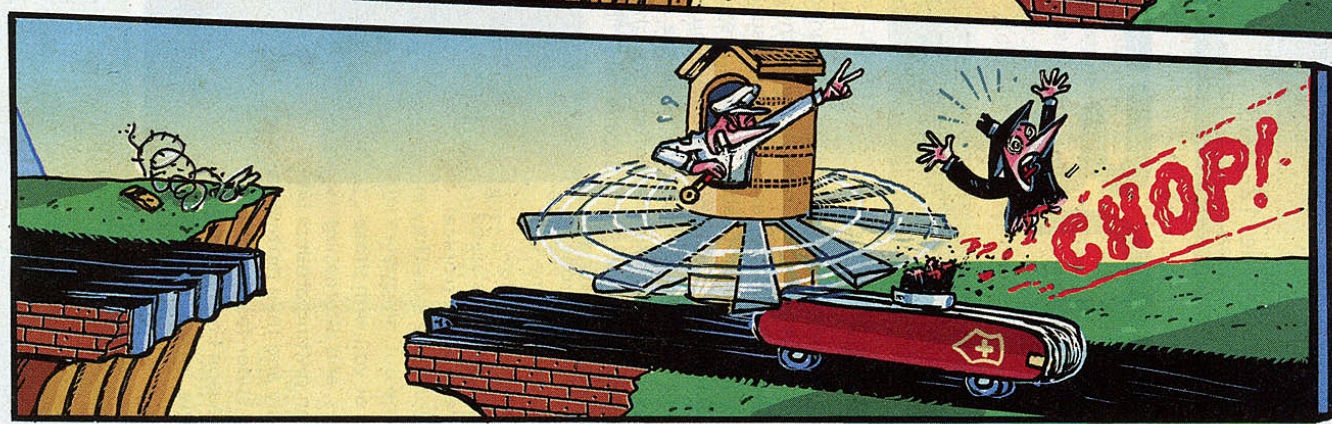
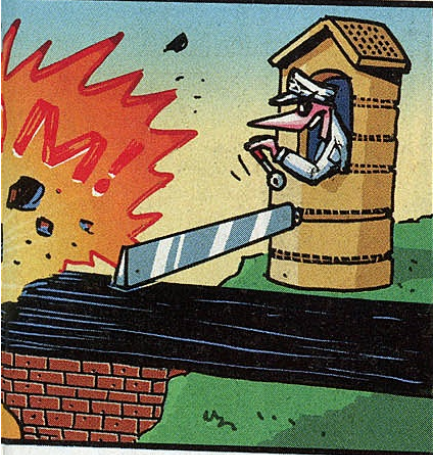
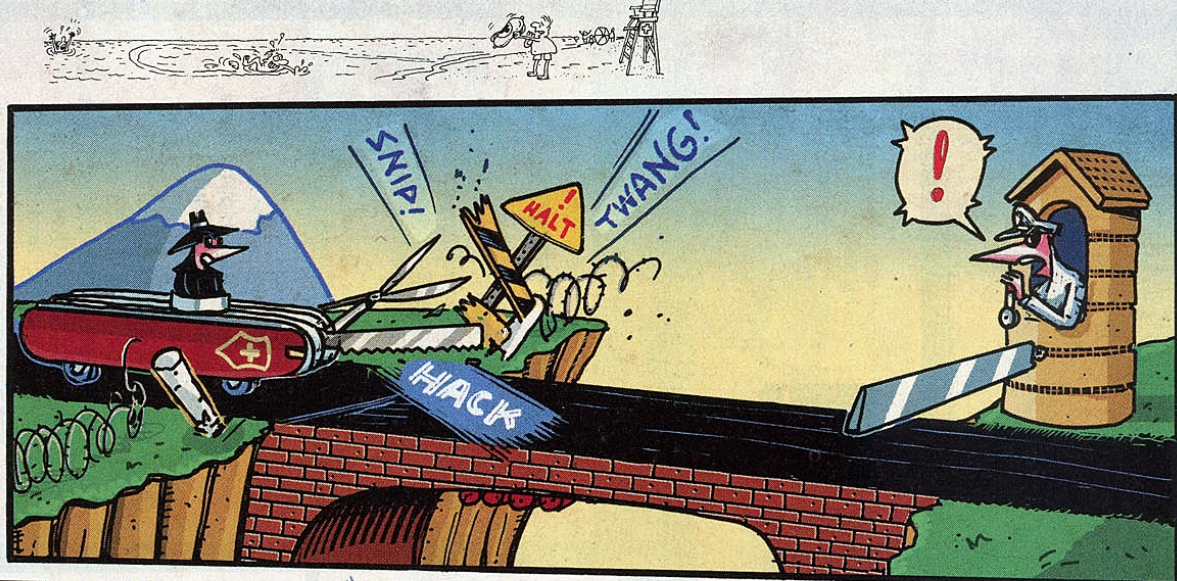
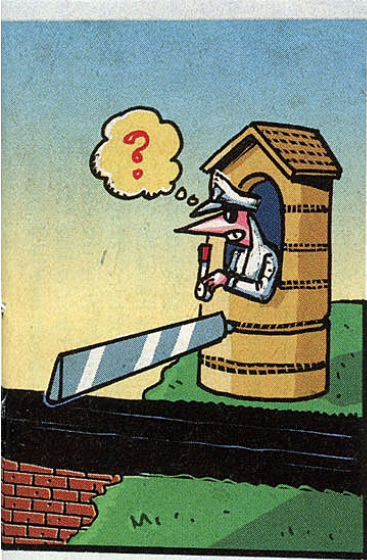
Next to their series, our series is about as menacing as a *Say Yes to the Dress* rerun!











SPY vs SPY

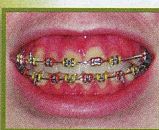
KUPER





# PLANET TAD!!!!

>> NAME: TAD >> AGE: .14 CENTURIES >> WEIGHT, EXPRESSED IN TADS: 1



## DECEMBER 18, 2013

So, tonight my little sister Sophie said she wanted to watch "Jack Frost", so I called it up on Netflix for her. But I wasn't paying close attention, because it turns out there are two movies called "Jack Frost" on Netflix.



Guess which one she wanted to watch? And guess which one I accidentally called up? And guess who's now in trouble because his sister can't sleep?

## DECEMBER 19, 2013

So, tonight at dinner, Sophie mentioned that she's going to be house-sitting for our neighbors, the Grahams, when they go away for Christmas and New Year's. I asked her, "Why'd they ask you? They usually ask me." And she said, "I dunno. Maybe you're not responsible enough. They said something about how, when they went away for two weeks last summer, you forgot to water their plants." And I said, "That's not true! I watered them!" And she said, "Well, they said they all died, so maybe you didn't water them often enough." And I said, "I was supposed to water them more than once?" And Sophie said, "This is why they asked me to house-sit."

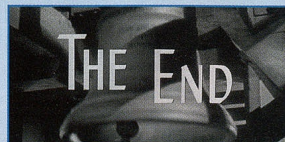
It's fine, though. From what Sophie tells me, Mr. Graham has a new aquarium, and he's asked her to feed all his tropical fish. I don't like fish. They creep me out, always staring at you with those big eyes, and alternating between drifting around aimlessly and then darting around super-fast. It's the same reason I can't watch Angelina Jolie movies.



## DECEMBER 20, 2013

My dad and I watched "It's a Wonderful Life" on TV tonight, and at the end of it, the words "THE END" came up huge on the screen.

I'm not sure why old movies always end with "THE END". I guess maybe, when movies were new, people used to sit in their seats for hours, all confused, wondering when the movie would start up again.



## DECEMBER 22, 2013

This afternoon, Sophie came to my room and said, "I need your help." Which surprised me, because Sophie never asks for my help. I asked her what she needed, and she said, "Just come with me," and led me next door, to the Grahams' place.

It turns out, one of the Grahams' fish was floating upside down in the aquarium. Sophie said, "They don't ever swim like that, do they?" And I said, "No. It's dead. But so what? They seem to have plenty of others." And she said, "No! That's Mr. Graham's favorite! He pointed it out to me because it was so pretty! He even gave it a name!" I said, "Please don't tell me the name that he—" But before I could finish, Sophie said, "Finny!"

Finny is the stupidest name for a fish ever.

Anyway, I told Sophie that I'd walk with her up to the fish store at the strip mall, and we could pick out a fish that looks exactly like Finny, and Mr. Graham would never know. "It'll be like that time I replaced your hamster," I said. "What?" she said. "Never mind," I said.

## DECEMBER 23, 2013

Sophie and I went up to the Age of Aquariums, the local fish store, today. The fish store creeps me out — between the strange fish smell, and the feeling of all those wet, beady fish eyes on me, and the sales guy who looks like a fish, and the big sign reading "Celebrate the 12 Days of Fish-mas!" with fish in Santa hats. I was getting kind of nauseous. So when I saw a fish that looked sort of like Finny, I said, "That's perfect!" And Sophie said, "Are you sure it's the same kind?" And I said, "Positive. It's like if Finny had a twin. We'll call him Finny, Jr."

We brought him back to the Grahams' place, and threw him in the tank. He seemed really happy to be there, darting around and playing with the other fish. Sophie looked at me and said words she's never said before in my life: "I owe you one."



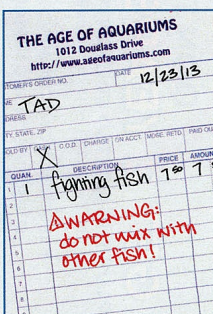
FINNY, JR.

## DECEMBER 24, 2013

Disaster.

Sophie ran into the house today screaming. She went over to check on the Grahams' fish, and they're all dead. "All of them?" I said. "All of them," she said. "Except for one. Guess which."

I went over with her, and there in the tank was Finny, Jr., swimming happily around a whole lot of dead fish. "What kind of weird psycho fish did you buy?" Sophie asked. I looked in my pocket and found the receipt:



"You bought a fighting fish?!" Sophie said. "It ate all the others! No wonder the Grahams don't let you house-sit anymore!" And then her voice got really low and scary, and she said, "I no longer owe you one."

The way we left it was, we'd get through Christmas, then tell my parents about what happened. I'm not sure what we'll do — maybe we'll have to pay a ton of money for new tropical fish, or maybe we'll just tell the Grahams and beg for their forgiveness.

I know I'm too old for this, but if there is any such thing as a Christmas miracle, please let this all go away. I don't want to be known as an accessory to fish murder.

## DECEMBER 29, 2013

Sorry I haven't been able to post for a few days. On Christmas morning, I woke up to Sophie jumping up and down on my bed, saying, "There's been a blizzard! There's been a blizzard!" Which seemed sort of unlike her, to get all excited about snow. And then she said, "There's been a power outage! The power's out all over the county!" Which seemed even less like her, because she loves watching TV. And then she said, "We're off the hook!"

And that's when I realized: Without any power, the Grahams' aquarium was going to shut down, which would've doomed their fish anyway. Once they heard about the power failure, they'd be expecting their fish to be dead, so there's no way they'd know that we'd kind of accidentally let loose a serial-killer fish a few days earlier. We were home free!

It was the happiest Christmas morning either of us had ever had.

(I realize that usually, that last sentence is preceded by a story a lot more heartwarming than, "We killed a bunch of fish and got away with it." But with our family, you kind of have to take what you can get.)

## LATEST TWEETS

**PLANET TAD** @PlanetTad 3m  
What would the Lorax think about all the trees being chopped down to print "The Lorax"?

**PLANET TAD** @PlanetTad 15m  
"Brunch" doesn't accurately reflect the proportion of breakfast and lunch in the meal. It should be "breakfunch".

**PLANET TAD** @PlanetTad 23m  
I was really excited to see "The Wolf of Wall Street", but then I found out there aren't any wolves in it, and it's just about some guy.

**PLANET TAD** @PlanetTad 42m  
It's weird how we all just accept that candy bars have nougat in them, even though none of us know what nougat is.

**PLANET TAD** @PlanetTad 3h  
It'd suck to have Dr. Seuss as your doctor. "Why do you feel lousy? Why do you feel drowsy? I know the answer, and the answer is cancer!"

**PLANET TAD** @PlanetTad 5h  
I wonder, if you stacked up all the uneaten strawberry segments from cartons of Neapolitan ice cream, how many times they'd reach the moon.

**PLANET TAD** @PlanetTad 9h  
I bet, until someone came up with the candy bar name Almond Joy, the words "almond" and "joy" had never before been in the same sentence.

## RELATIONSHIP

Vas (that means "single" in Klingon!)

## LIKES



Fruit Ninja



Froot Loops



Fruit by the Foot

## DISLIKES



Fruit flies



Fruit bats



Fruit

## PLACES

Tad visited:

- Home
- Grahams' house
- The Age of Aquariums





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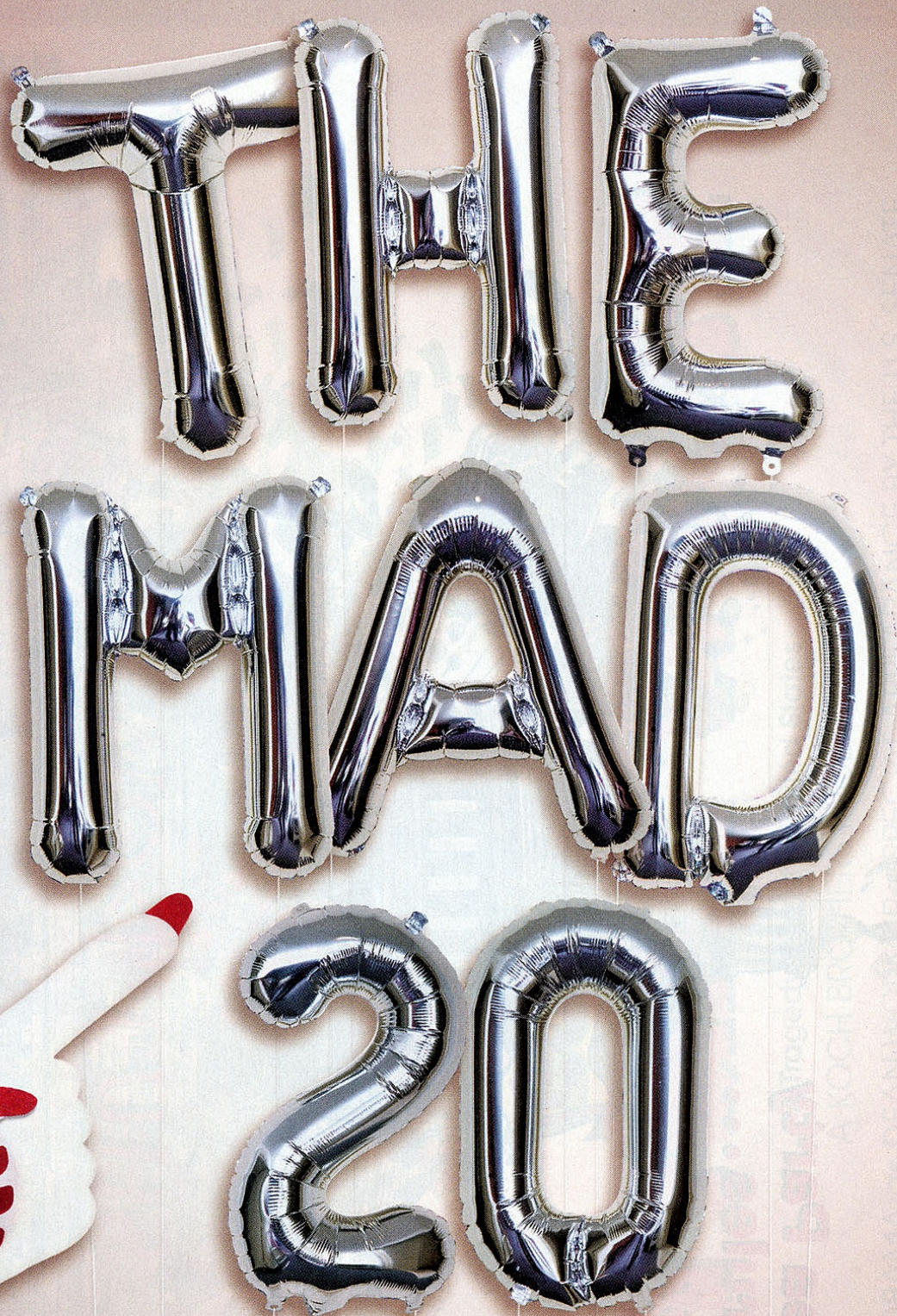
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THE  
**#DUMBEST**

PEOPLE, EVENTS & THINGS OF 2013



[illegible]

No one under 18 will be allowed to vote. Bring 17 forms of I.D., two box tons and eight Bazooka Joe wrappers.



2

# THE BOSTON BOMBER AND *ROLLING STONE* BLOWING THEIR COVER

*Rolling Stone* usually features glamorous pop stars on its covers, so when they featured the Boston Marathon bomber, all hell broke loose. The magazine was widely criticized — but not by us — for “glamorizing” a terrorist. (Frankly, when it comes to tasteless *Rolling Stone* covers, nothing tops when they went with Snooki humping a giant rocket — and no one said boo about that.) Like it or not, depicting a terrorist as an all-American kid gone wrong can be justified editorially, but that didn’t stem the outrage that followed. All we can say is that it would have been much worse if the cold-blooded mass murderer had been depicted on any of these other magazines...

## bon appétit

AUGUST 2013

### THE BOMBER

HOW A POPULAR, PROMISING STUDENT WAS FAILED BY HIS FAMILY, WHIPPED UP A SUCCULENT APPLE, WALNUT, AND GORGONZOLA BUCATINI, FELL INTO RADICAL ISLAM, AND BECAME A MONSTER



## CAT FANCY

AUGUST 2013

### The Bomber

How a popular, promising student was failed by his family, bred a show-ready tuxedo shorthair, fell into radical Islam, and became a monster



## weightwatchers

August 2013

### the Bomber

How a popular, promising student was failed by his family, dropped 34 pounds in three weeks, fell into radical Islam, and became a monster

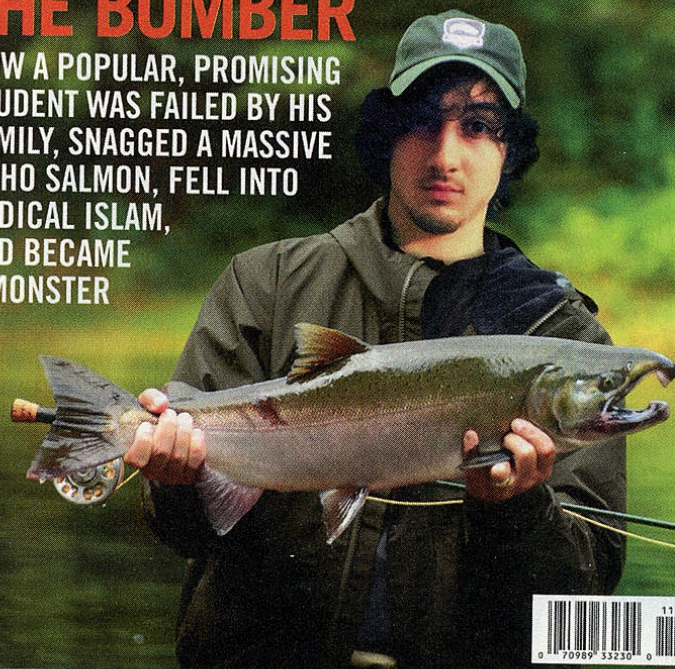


## FIELD & STREAM

AUGUST 2013

### THE BOMBER

HOW A POPULAR, PROMISING STUDENT WAS FAILED BY HIS FAMILY, SNAGGED A MASSIVE COHO SALMON, FELL INTO RADICAL ISLAM, AND BECAME A MONSTER





3

# WEINER AND SPITZER ATTEMPT A COMEBACK ALL POLITICS IS LOCO

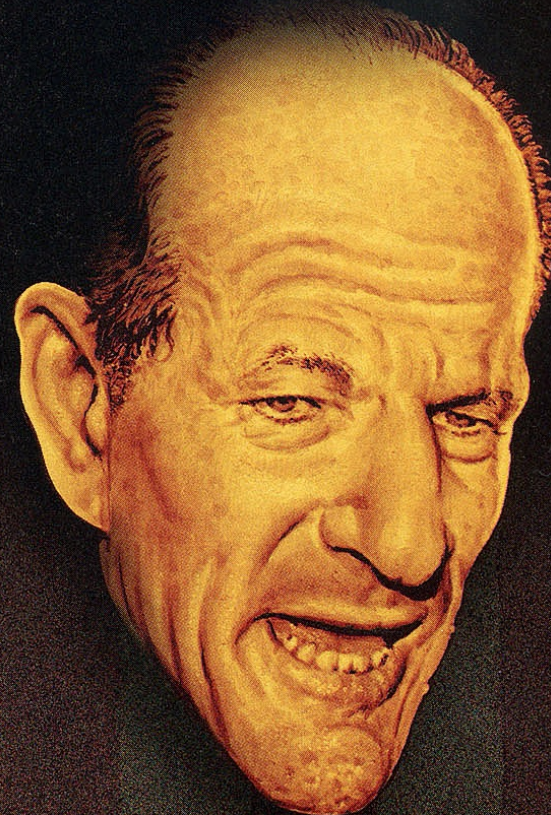
When they ran for office again this year, Anthony Weiner and Eliot Spitzer were already established as unethical, duplicitous, shamelessly out-of-control horn-dogs with prodigiously oversized egos and proven track records of narcissism, arrogance and self-delusion. Weiner ran for Mayor of New York as a dickish punk who thought tweeting photos of his pecker to strangers, and then denying he did it, somehow qualified him for the office. Spitzer ran for Comptroller of New York as a repentant pervert who thought his spending \$80,000 on hookers while he was governor somehow made him the perfect person to manage the city's \$70 billion budget. They both lost, but they'll forever share a different title.



"The first film that begins with a happy ending!"  
—Bill Clinton

"For God's sake, don't see this in IMAX."  
—David Petraeus

"There won't be a dry seat in the house!"  
—John Edwards



ARTIST: DREW FRIEDMAN

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

ANTHONY  
WEINER

ELIOT  
SPITZER

# WANGS OF NEW YORK

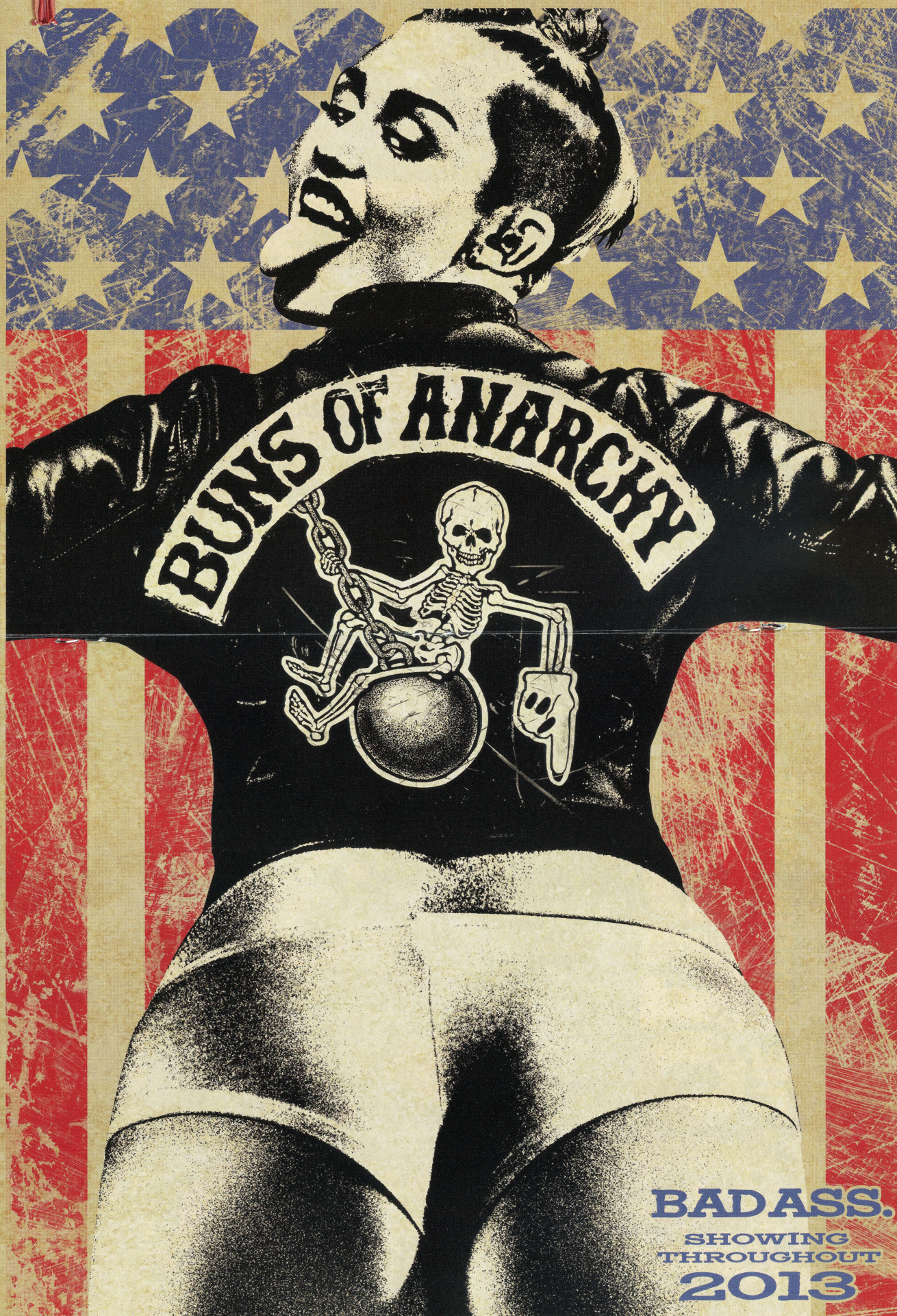
SOME MEN CAN'T CONTROL THEIR ELECTIONS



4

## MILEY CYRUS APPEARS ON THE VMAS TWERKING GIRL

For a former child star, it's really hard to be taken seriously as an adult artist — luckily, Miley Cyrus had a plan! To show the world that she wasn't the goofy, squeaky-clean Disney star she once was, she did what any mature, evolving auteur would do — she stuck out her tongue, went to third base with a foam finger, and rubbed her ass against anything within twerking distance. We can't say that she seemed any more grown up, but her act certainly got old real fast.



ARTIST: SCOTT BRICHER



5

## THE WINKLEVOSS TWINS' BITCOIN VENTURE WHAT'S NOT IN YOUR WALLET?

Although Bitcoins have circulated since 2009, the virtual currency gained prominence in March when European investors began hoarding them during Cyprus' banking implosion. If you don't know what Bitcoins actually are, let us explain: cryptographic coding logs each online transaction in a network protocol-derived blockchain, which produces verifiable proof that event-sequence nodes are enabled to produce new Bitcoins at a steadily-decreasing rate until 2140, when 21 million total Bitcoins will have been generated at a fractional rate of today's production. Starting to understand? Ready to dump all your real, government-regulated money into a sketchy, intrinsically valueless currency? No and no? Would it help if we told you that the creepy Winklevoss twins are planning a Bitcoin stock market? No again? Then it sounds like you aren't the target audience for a future publication that will cover such pseudo-currency.

# Fake **THE BITCOIN ISSUE** Money

JULY 2013

## THE WINKLEVOSS TWINS

WITH AN  
IDEA EVEN  
MARK  
ZUCKERBERG  
WOULDN'T  
BOTHR  
TO STEAL

P. 54

HOW  
BITCOINS  
WORK

OUR 34-PAGE  
FLOW CHART

ONLINE DRUG  
BAZAARS TO  
SPEND YOUR  
BITCOINS IN  
NOW THAT  
SILK ROAD HAS  
BEEN BUSTED

P. 72

15 ADVANTAGES  
OF HACKABLE  
CURRENCY

P. 83

WHAT TO DO  
WHEN YOUR  
BITCOIN "WEALTH"  
VANISHES VIA  
COMPUTER GLITCH

P. 96

ARTIST: MIKE LOEW



6

# MANTI TE'O'S DEAD "GIRLFRIEND" KISS AND MADE UP

It's hard to meet someone special. But Notre Dame linebacker Manti Te'o found a way around that — he met someone special without actually meeting her! It's unclear how a guy could "date" someone without seeing his girlfriend — but that's one of the less bizarre aspects of the story. For over a year, Manti Te'o and Lennay Kekua had long phone conversations and Twitter interactions — but then Kekua was diagnosed with leukemia, and died after a car crash. Te'o talked with reporters a lot about Kekua and their relationship...but those same reporters soon deduced that Kekua didn't die in a car accident, didn't have leukemia and, in fact, didn't exist. She was actually an elaborate prank played by Ronaiah Tuiasosopo, a male family friend (who obviously has some issues). It's unclear if Te'o was in on the scam, or was just a gullible romantic who got catfished — but either way, the whole thing is hard to swallow.

DRINK UP THE  
UNBELIEVABLY GREAT STUFF THAT  
NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL STAR  
MANTI TE'O  
FELL CRAZY IN LOVE WITH!

# HAWAIIAN PUNK'D

GREAT  
FAR-FETCHED TASTE!

NOW WITH  
ARTIFICIAL FLAVOR,  
FACTS & GIRLFRIEND!

GULLIBLE  
GRAPE!

Win a dream date with a nonexistent woman dreamed up by Manti's secret male admirer! See back label for the utterly perplexing details!



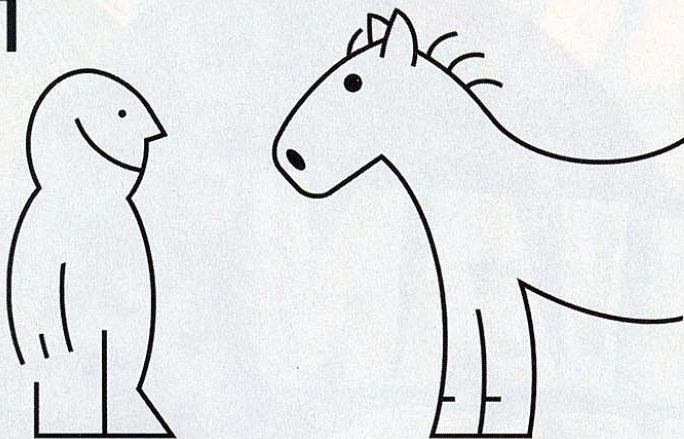
Before 2013, IKEA was known for flimsy furniture, indecipherable instructions and baffling product names ("Flärdfull," "Dagstorp," "Grönkulla"). But after a tainted-meat scandal that spread across Europe last spring, the Swedish retailer gained a more dubious distinction: seller of horse meatballs. "Based on some hundred test results that we have received so far, there are a few indications of horsemeat," the company admitted in February, as it yanked the savory Flicka-nuggets from its store cafeterias. And while Ikea cut ties with its meat supplier and resumed selling the (assumedly equine-free) meatballs in late March, it's now impossible to eat an IKEA meatball without hearing a strange sound in our stomachs: Gall-öp, gall-öp, gall-öp!



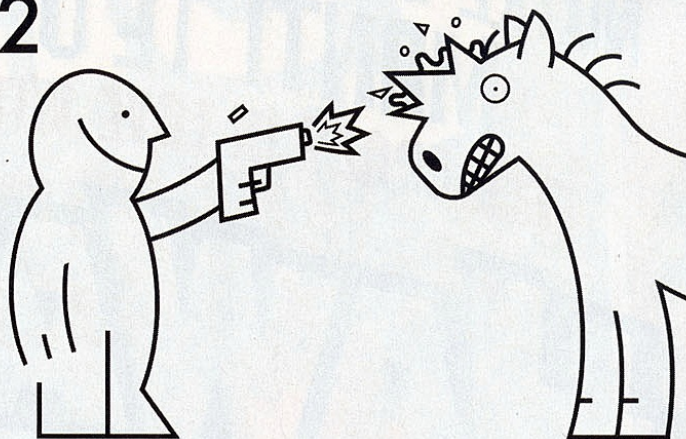
## INSTRUCTION SHEET

## SVEDISH MEATBALL

1



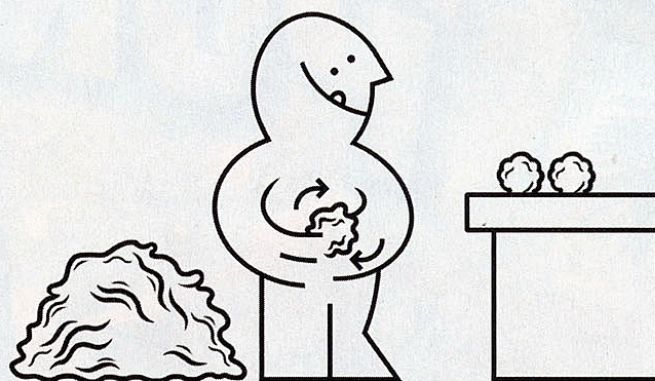
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3



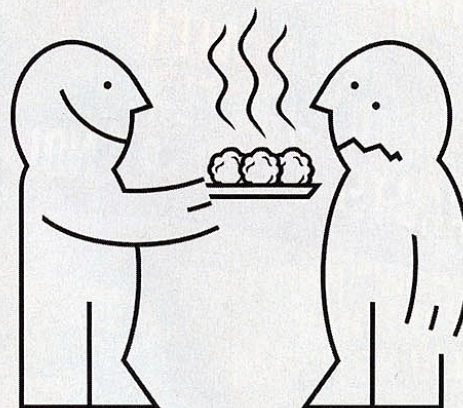
4



5



6







## OBAMA'S DRONE POLICY INNOCENTS LOST

In 2009, President Obama received the Nobel Peace Prize. Apparently none of the peace prize judges live in a country where unmanned U.S. drones drop bombs on innocent people while killing or attempting to kill terrorists, would-be terrorists or Facebook friends of either. Here's the question: is this a well-thought-out, productive use of our multi-trillion dollar military arsenal or are we just creating future generations of terrorists, would-be terrorists or Facebook friends of either? One thing's for sure: if President Bush had signed off on this, Michael Moore would have already completed an Academy Award-winning documentary about it. That said, we think there's a movie to be made about President Obama and his faithful companion, Biden.

FROM THE PRODUCER OF "PIRATES OF THE CONSTITUTION"

# THE DRONE RANGER



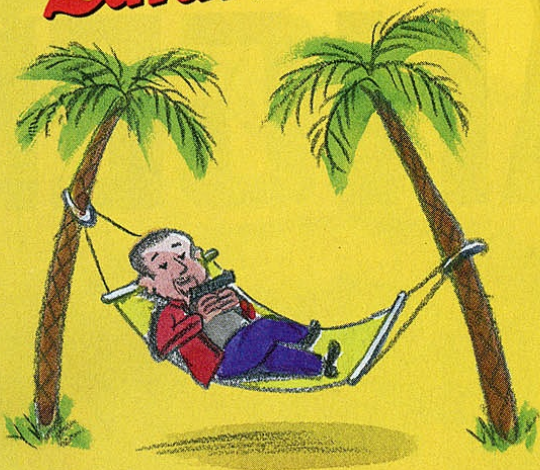
NOW BOMBING  
EVERYWHERE



# GEORGE ZIMMERMAN TRIAL AND ERRORS

With all the chaos, strife and drama surrounding George Zimmerman's arrest and trial, you'd think that after he was found "not guilty," he'd just want to get back to normal life. But that guy just can't catch a break! (Well, except for the whole "not guilty" thing...) For Zimmerman, it seems like chaos, strife and drama ARE his normal life. Zimmerman keeps popping up in the news – and we can't help but wonder if things might improve for him if he just put his head down and minded his own business. But that's never exactly been his strong suit. And in the end, it's hard to start a new chapter when you're dealing with the same old character.

## Curious George Zimmerman



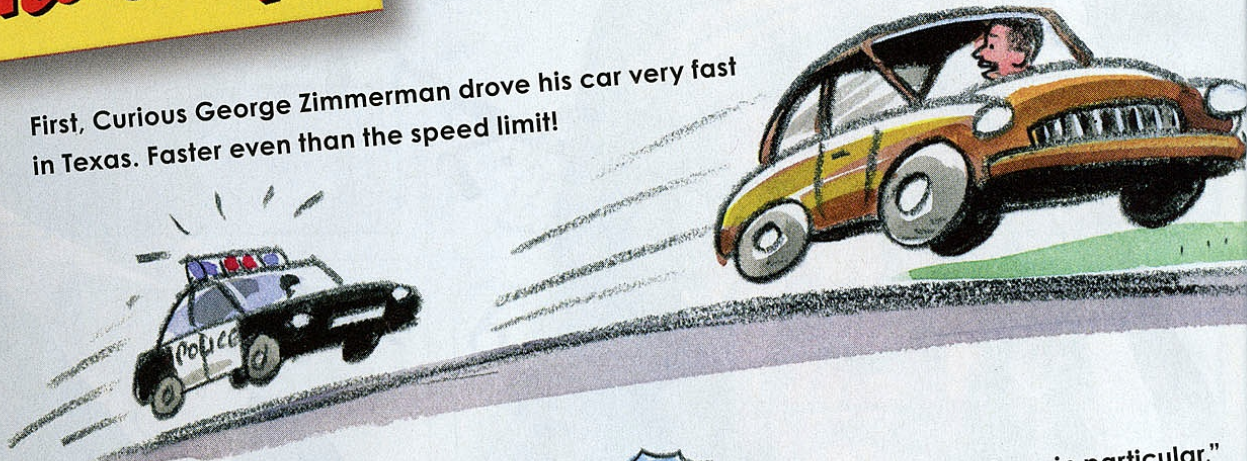
## Beats the Rap

Look who's back! It's self-appointed neighborhood watchman Curious George Zimmerman! When we last saw Curious George Z., he had just shot and killed a kid in a hoodie. But lucky Curious George Z.! A jury of almost all white women said he was innocent anyway!



After the trial, the judge said, "You escaped your cage, Curious George Zimmerman. Now run along and stay out of trouble." But Curious George Z. could not do that. Not at all!

First, Curious George Zimmerman drove his car very fast in Texas. Faster even than the speed limit!



"Where are you going so fast, Curious George Z.?" asked the nice policeman who pulled him over.



"Nowhere in particular," said Curious George Z. "Oh, and by the way, there's a loaded gun in my glove compartment." Curious George Z. was in the news again!



Then Curious George Zimmerman decided that he wanted a shotgun. So he went to a gun factory. It was the factory that makes the same kind of gun George Z. used to kill the kid in the hoodie. Curious George Z. was so excited, he posed for a photographer with a happy smile on his face. Oh brother! Curious George Z. was in the news yet again!



Pretty soon Curious George Zimmerman went really bananas! He got into a fight with his wife. He even threatened her and her father with a gun! Then he smashed her iPad so no one could see the video she took of him!

Curious George Z. drove away fast but was pulled over and once again handcuffed by a policeman.



Curious George Zimmerman is involved in so many hi-jinks, it's hard to keep up. Maybe that cage wasn't such a bad idea after all!





10

DENNIS RODMAN, OUR NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR A GAME OF ONE ON UN

We were hopeful, earlier this year, when Dennis Rodman twice visited North Korea and became the first American to meet Kim Jong-un. After all, having played in the NBA under Phil Jackson, Rodman knows a thing or two about dealing with soulless, egomaniacal control freaks. Besides, who better than an erratic power forward who was always among the league leaders in technical fouls, kicking cameramen and dying his hair purple to reason with a ruthless, evil despot? Unfortunately, these high-level meetings haven't resulted in a diplomatic breakthrough — though Rodman has yet to bring in Metta World Peace.



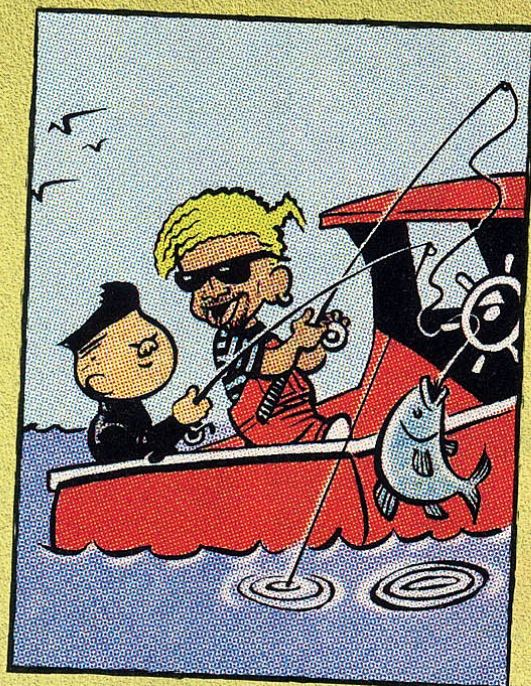
# DENNIS and The MENACE



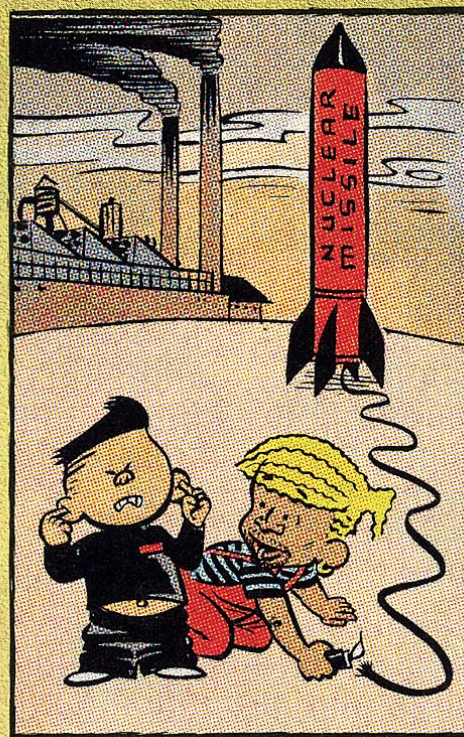

"YOU REALLY HAD YOUR FIRST GIRLFRIEND KILLED BY FIRING SQUAD? AWW, MAN, WHY COULDN'T I HAVE MET YOU WHEN I WAS TRYING TO DITCH CARMEN ELECTRA?"



"WHAT AN APPETITE! YOU EAT TWICE AS MUCH AS ME! AND 20,000 TIMES MORE THAN THE AVERAGE NORTH KOREAN CITIZEN!"



"YOU'RE RIGHT! THE TONGUES OF DISSIDENT CHILDREN MAKE THE BEST BAIT!"



"AND YOU ABSOLUTELY PROMISE IT'S AIMED AT PHIL JACKSON'S HOUSE, RIGHT?"



"KIM, DON'T LET ANYONE TELL YOU NORTH KOREA ISN'T LIKE AMERICA — FOR INSTANCE, RIGHT NOW I COULD BE STANDING IN DOWNTOWN DETROIT..."



11

# THE OBAMACARE WEBSITE LAUNCH DOA.GOV

The Affordable Care Act was to be President Obama's signature achievement, enabling millions of Americans to stop using sketchy home remedies every time they broke a pinky or got chlamydia. But when the online insurance exchange went live on October 1, the only thing it enabled millions of Americans to do was scream curses at a frozen computer screen. Healthcare.gov, the portal to apply for "Obamacare," was a hopelessly broken mess, seemingly designed by a team of idiot toddlers. As the problems got worse by the day, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius was thrown under the scapegoat express, while Obama promised, "We're going to smooth this thing out." Sure, Barack. As if you can "smooth out" a debacle worthy of a summer disaster flick.

KATHLEEN  
**SEBELIUS**

BARACK  
**OBAMA**



"The incompetence  
in building this  
website is staggering."

**Representative  
Marsha Blackburn,  
R-Tennessee**

"We assumed it  
was up and  
ready to run."  
**Joe Biden**

"Absolute chaos."

**Senator  
Mitch McConnell,  
R-Kentucky**

"A miserably  
frustrating  
experience."  
**Kathleen Sebelius**

FROM THE PRESIDENT WHO GAVE US  
**BENGHAZI, SOLYNDRA, THE IRS SCANDAL,  
THE AP SCANDAL AND THE NSA SCANDAL**

# WHITE HOUSE WEBSITE DOWN

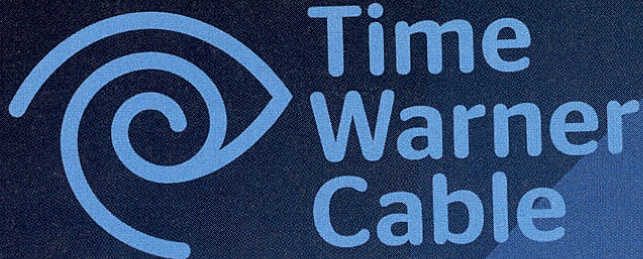
IT ALL CRASHES DOWN OCTOBER 1



12

# THE CBS/TIME WARNER CABLE DISPUTE A GREED TRAGEDY

It's hard to decide who to root against when a greedy television network and a soulless cable television provider lock horns in an ugly public money grab, the inevitable result of which will be extremely bad for everyone but them. So in August, when Time Warner Cable yanked CBS off the air in New York, Los Angeles and other cities in a dispute over who was going to raid our wallets more, our fervent hope was that they'd sue each other into oblivion. Unfortunately, they made a deal — but not before dragging everyone through the fetid swamp of their seemingly endless pissing war. The losers, as always, were us.



## A Message to Time Warner Customers About the CBS Blackout

CBS is demanding a huge increase in transmission fees. We see no reason to give it to them. According to the Nielsen Ratings, CBS has only six shows in the Top 10. Six! That's an insignificant 60% of what you really want to watch.

As far as we're concerned, what CBS is asking us to pay more for isn't even interesting TV. It's mostly a lot of grown men playing silly games like golf or football. That's stuff you can probably see in your local park for free.

Despite the fact that CBS insists negotiations are NOT ongoing, we promise you that they are! And we're making excellent progress. That could change, however, if anyone from CBS decides to come to one of our negotiation meetings.

In the meantime, we are doing as much as possible to make this situation easier on you. For example: In place of channel 2, we're putting in channel 4. In place of channel 4, we're putting in channel 7. In place of channel 7, we're putting in channel 5. And in place of channel 5, we're putting in channel 4 for a second time. With all this confusion, we feel certain you'll never notice there's no channel 2.

In conclusion, we want to assure all our customers that we here at Time Warner Cable remain committed to trying to strike a balance between paying as little as possible for programming, and charging you as much as possible to watch.

**Time Warner Cable**



## Time Warner Cable Holding Your Favorite TV Shows Hostage!

Time Warner Cable has dropped CBS and is holding your favorite TV shows hostage! Okay, so *Duck Dynasty* and *Breaking Bad* aren't on CBS, but our new Monday night show is called *Hostages*. Coincidence?

Time Warner says we're acting greedy. We assure you, we are not! We are acting in the grand tradition of capitalist American corporations, which have never shown even a scintilla of greed! We would like to work in good faith to resolve this dispute, but legally we can't, because this is not a religious matter.

Fortunately, the Time Warner blackout only affects a few hick towns: New York, Los Angeles, Dallas, Boston, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Denver and Detroit. And it involves a mere 3.5 million viewers, which represents less than 80% of our audience. Of course, when you add in the other CBS channels that Time Warner has blocked, including The Movie Channel, Flix and the Smithsonian Channel, it's 81% of our audience. Our financial and marketing experts say that over time, this could be problematic to our core business.

Throughout this process, Time Warner Cable has conducted negotiations in a non-productive spirit. We, on the other hand, have taken definitive action. We've blocked millions of Time Warner customers from accessing CBS.com in every market, regardless of whether or not they subscribe to Time Warner. So who's crazy now? Wait, don't answer that.

Until this dispute is settled we ask that you not fall prey to Time Warner's disinformation about us. The only place you'll get the real disinformation is from us!

**CBS TV**



13

# RUSSIA PASSES ANTI-GAY LAWS PROTECTING THE HOMOPHOBE-LAND

President Vladimir Putin says that gays will be welcome at the upcoming Olympic games in Russia. True, he'll be welcoming them as a homophobe, but they'll be "welcome" nonetheless. Vlad signed a new law this year prohibiting "gay propaganda" and giving the Russian government authority to impose fines on anyone who violates it. Oddly, he also posed shirtless in a pathetic series of lame photos intended to show him off as a macho Bolshevik, but instead made him look, surprise surprise, totally gay. We're still waiting for him to fine himself for creating such outrageous, immoral, yet strangely stimulating "gay propaganda"!

## STRENGTH HONOR GLORY



WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

ARTIST: PETER KUPER

RUSSIA'S NATIONAL DESTINY  
CAN ONLY BE IMPERILED BY



# TWO DUDES KISSING



14

# PAULA DEEN DROPS THE N-WORD RECIPE FOR DISASTER

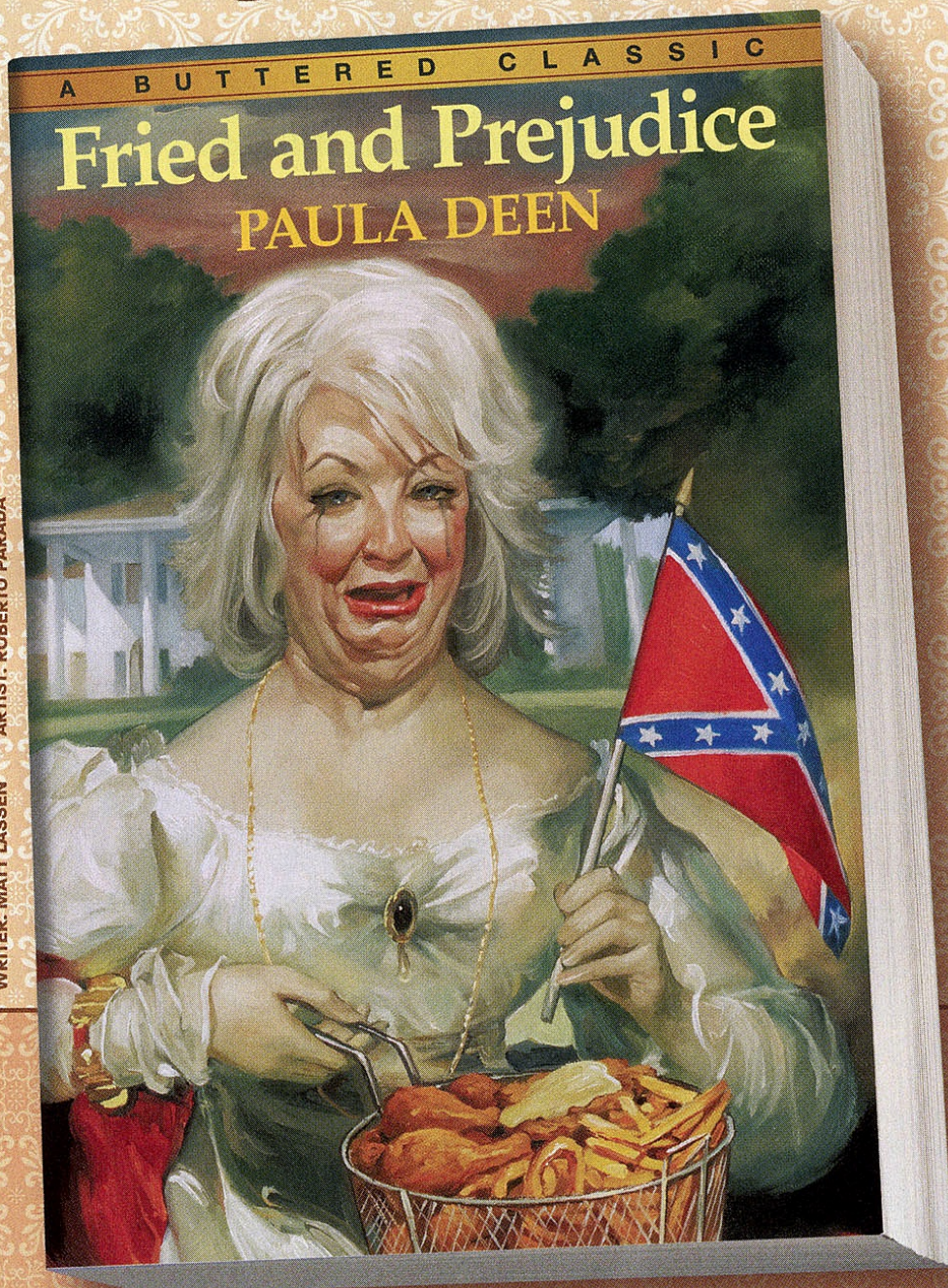
A single bad decision can ruin your career. But if you're Paula Deen — creator of the hamburger-fried egg-bacon-donut sandwich — you're used to piling one bad decision on top of another! When she was asked if she had ever used the n-word, Deen admitted that she had said it years ago...but added that she had probably used it since then. As the controversy was escalating, she went on *The Today Show* to apologize...but added that she wasn't going to change. Soon she was out of the bacon-filled frying pan and into the fire — her show was cancelled, her sponsors abandoned her and now she's left trying to figure out what's next. Our advice? She's already written a bunch of cookbooks — maybe it's time to try literature.

## One Woman's Grease-Stained Journey

from  
**Food Network  
Superstar  
to  
Blubbering  
Pariah**

*The timeless tale of a Southern woman who must navigate the hazards of fame, the media and modern society — after repeatedly using the n-word in casual conversation.*

Read all about  
**THE SLUR**  
that caused  
**A STIR!**



WRITER: MATT LASSEN ARTIST: ROBERTO PARADA

"Paula won't be appearing on any upcoming broadcasts and we will phase out her product assortment on our online sales channels over the next few months."

— QVC

"(We) will not renew Paula Deen's contract when it expires at the end of this month."

— Food Network

"Smithfield condemns the use of offensive and discriminatory language and behavior of any kind. Therefore, we are terminating our partnership with Paula Deen."

— Smithfield Hams

"I is what I is, and I'm not changing."

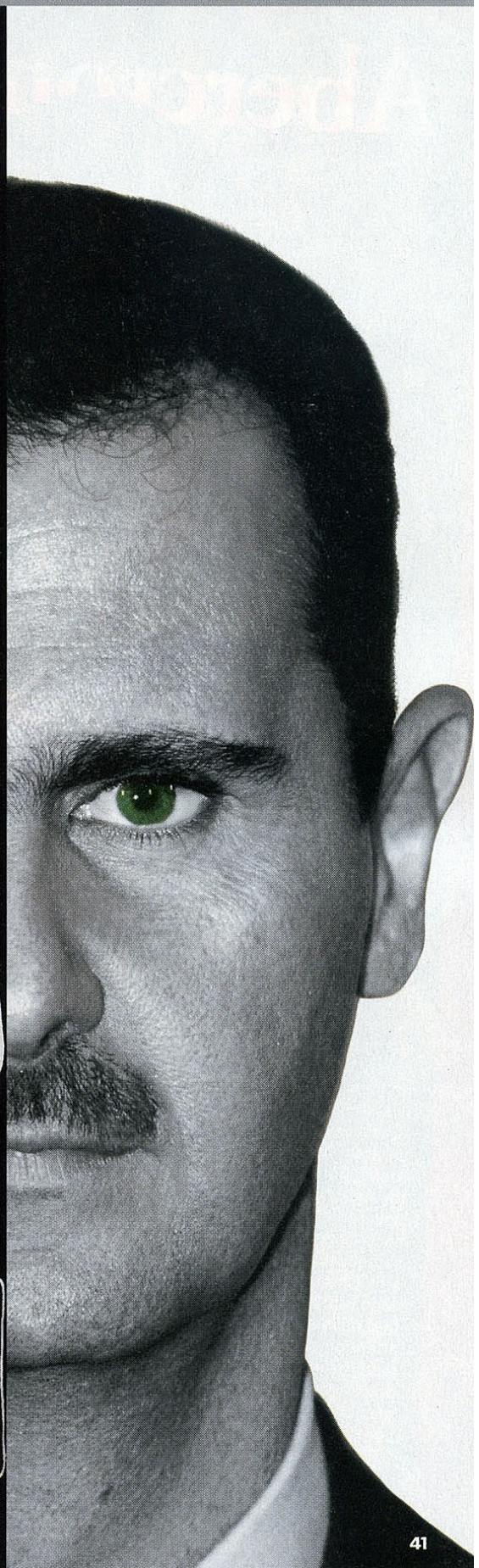
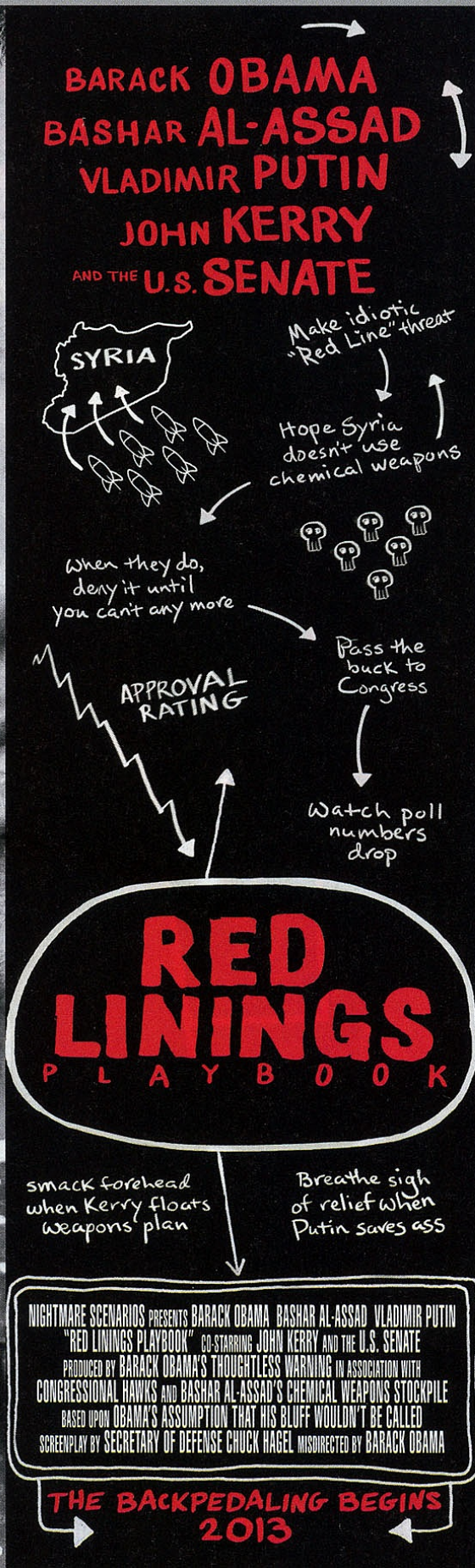
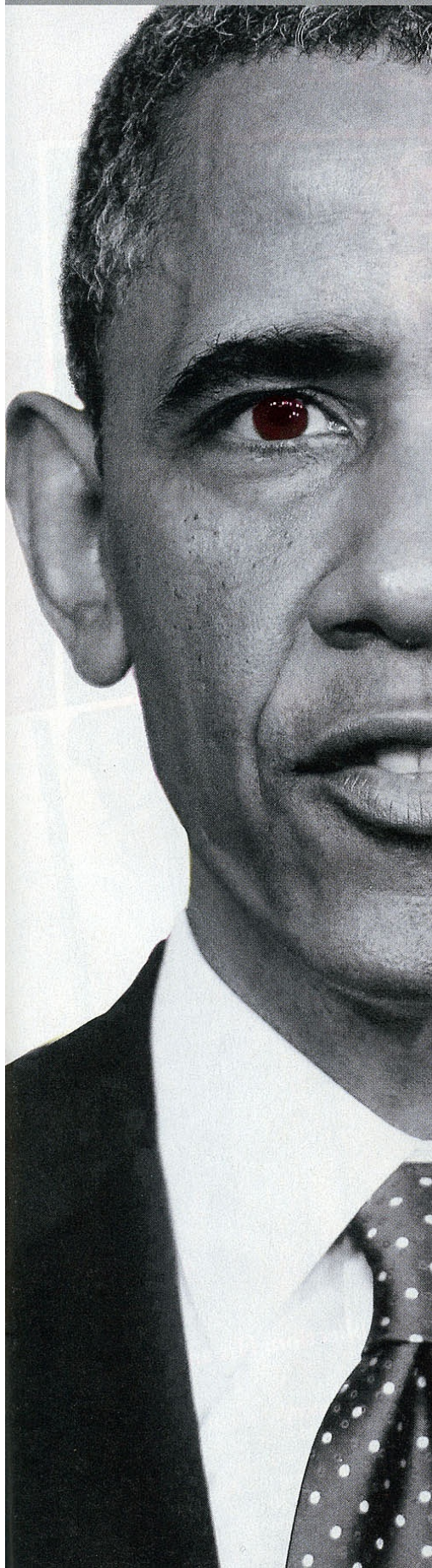
— Paula Deen



# 15

## OBAMA'S BLUFF ON SYRIA'S CHEMICAL WEAPONS ALL KIDDING ASSAD

In August of 2012, President Obama responded to a reporter's question about the use of military force in Syria with this threat: "A red line for us is we start seeing a whole bunch of chemical weapons moving around or being utilized. That would change my calculus." But when Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad did start gassing his own people last summer, the Churchill version of Obama was replaced by a stammering weasel: "I didn't set a red line; the world set a red line," he lamely explained. Thanks to his verbal clumsiness, a military invasion of some sort seemed inevitable — until Vladimir Putin (who has never won a Nobel Peace Prize) worked out a last-minute deal to avert World War III (for now). In the end, Obama walked away from the mess largely unscathed — despite a Middle-East "plan" that seemed developed by someone suffering from bipolar disorder.



NIGHTMARE SCENARIOS PRESENTS BARACK OBAMA BASHAR AL-ASSAD VLADIMIR PUTIN  
"RED LININGS PLAYBOOK" CO-STARRING JOHN KERRY AND THE U.S. SENATE  
PRODUCED BY BARACK OBAMA'S THOUGHTLESS WARNING IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
CONGRESSIONAL HAWKS AND BASHAR AL-ASSAD'S CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILE  
BASED UPON OBAMA'S ASSUMPTION THAT HIS BLUFF WOULDN'T BE CALLED  
SCREENPLAY BY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE CHUCK HAGEL MISDIRECTED BY BARACK OBAMA

**THE BACKPEDALING BEGINS  
2013**



# 16

## THE LEAKING OF CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS TRAITOR SHMOES

Nobody likes a tattletale — especially the U.S. intelligence community. So when NSA Contractor Edward Snowden reported \_\_\_\_\_, or Army private Bradley (now Chelsea) Manning uncovered \_\_\_\_\_, and Wikileaks founder Julian Assange revealed \_\_\_\_\_, America's spymasters got really pissed off that we now knew that they knew what nobody knew they knew. It's that simple! So even though we're angry that our own government is spying on us, we're also angry at the ones who revealed to us that we're being spied on. It's a weird contradiction, but that's just our style.

# Abercrombie & Snitch

### The Edward Snowden Collection: Escape!

#### Wool Topcoat \$239

Perfect for the man who wants to stay stylish and toasty warm, even when he finds himself living in self-imposed exile in Russia. Whether you're a patriot or traitor, this roomy garment is ideal for strolling past the government contractor's security desk with a laptop secretly tucked under each arm. Choose from four colors, each with a classy-fied look that pays almost criminal attention to detail. Smart features include extra inside pockets to store flash drives, memory cards and the private communications of nearly 300 million Americans!

### The Julian Assange Collection: Inside Fashion

#### Ecuadorian-Styled Nylon Raincoat \$56

Weathering a nasty rainstorm or media storm is a breeze with this peek-a-boo vinyl raincoat. It's completely transparent, just the way you like it. And as long as we're exposing secrets, we must admit this sleek slicker is designed for style, not for keeping you dry. After all, you always have to expect a few leaks!

### The Bradley Manning Collection: His and Hers

#### Cashmere Sweater \$139

There's nothing quite like being held in custody naked, 24/7 for 11 months in a 6x12-foot cell, to make you fashion-conscious. So pamper yourself and enjoy the soft feel of cashmere while you're doing hard time. And rest easy during your lengthy incarceration knowing this handsome sweater will be just as stylish when you're released in 2048 (2040 with good behavior)! And don't worry about "aiding the enemy" because it was proudly made in the U.S.A.!



17

REESE WITHERSPOON'S DWI INCIDENT **ARRESTING DEVELOPMENT**

Reese Witherspoon became one of Hollywood's highest-paid actresses by seeming bubbly and likable — the perky chick who wins everyone over with her smiling, cheery goodness. So it was shocking to see her slurring her way through a police video last April, boozily threatening a Georgia state trooper who pulled over her drunkenly-driving husband. While many have predicted that the outburst will destroy her career, that prediction presupposes that she still has a career! Maybe it's time Reese rebooted her image and gave the old "perky Reese" a rest. The plastered, monstrous diva revealed on the cop's video was clearly a role she's comfortable with.

REESE WITHERSPOON is

**LEGALLY****This spring****bombed****get bombed!****"Ma'am, get back in that car!"****— Georgia State Trooper****"You're about to find out who I am!...I'm an American Citizen!"****— Reese Witherspoon****"I'm sorry...I had nothing to do with this."**  
**— Witherspoon's Husband, Jim Toth**



18

## THE NSA SPYING ON EVERYONE SNOOP'S ON

Thanks to the NSA's spying program, privacy isn't merely dead, it's rotted and decomposing in a shallow grave. Your e-mails, Google searches and reading? Not private! What's under your hat? Not private! Hell, they even know you're reading this intro! Exactly how does the NSA get away with

## "BLURRED LA

(Sung to the tune of Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines")

Everybody 'fess up! Everybody 'fess up!  
(NSA, NSA, NSA)

Yes, we do hear — everything you say  
Yes, we do read — from your e-mail page  
Maybe you're in-no-cent, maybe you're not so pure  
One way of finding out for sure!

Okay we tapped your phone, had to invest-i-gate ya  
At work and at your home, snoopin's just in our nature  
We may incarcerate ya (NSA)  
There's some rules we're bendin' (NSA)  
Forget the Fourth Amendment (NSA)

We know the things you like to Goo-gle!  
Each con-ver-sation, across the nation,  
We're busy tapin'  
Checkin' Goo-gle!  
You might be lyin', so we keep pryin'  
Right now we're spyin'  
'Cause of Blurred Laws!

Is it illegal? Might be illegal  
To check your e-mail  
And your Goo-gle!  
Not sure you're alright  
You spend your whole night  
Just watching porn sites!

Got no reason to fret,  
info is kept se-cret  
We never even see it  
By the way, your printer needs ink!  
So you discovered (NSA)  
We had to bug ya (NSA)  
What rhymes with bug ya?  
NSA-ay-ay-ay-ay!

We look for something odd, any suspicious info  
If you mention jihad, you may end up in Gitmo  
And now because of Snowden  
The whole damn world is knowin'  
Your rights we are erodin'  
'Cause we've been checking on your Goo-gle!



WRITER: MIKE MORSE  
ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA



phone calls? Not private, not private, not private. Your current location, credit history and "confidential" medical records? Not private, not private, not private. What you're continually violating the Constitution and gathering all this information without a warrant? No one can say for sure because that information somehow remains...private.

# WS"



*We can't deny it, there's nothing private  
Though you don't like it  
We check Goo-gle!  
We're finally coppin', to our eavesdroppin'  
But we ain't stoppin'  
'Cause of Blurred Laws!*

*We're analyzin', and scrutinizin'  
What are you hidin'?  
When you Goo-gle?  
We're cyber-stalkin', we hear you talkin'  
E-mails we're gawkin'*

*(Rap)*  
*Okay, we spy on you  
A lot of private correspondence that we view  
To track down the few who evil do  
Want to blow up planes with a bomb in their shoe!  
So cut some slack when we, um, review  
Forget about your rights, we've got to stop a coup —  
Think we have fun? Well, it's far from that  
Reading Facebook posts about your freakin' cat!  
Who gives a damn that you don't adore  
Like you're stuck in "1984"  
But we're only doing what we have to do  
There's a lot of creeps out there to pursue!  
So we're watchin', and waitin'  
There's a lot out there that sure is threatenin'  
But we mostly see just fat guys sextin'  
Photos of their junk and it's got us retchin'!*

*Tapped your phone, sit down, listen up  
Guess what I heard?  
Your wife's not at work!  
She's out with some jerk!  
NSA-ay-ay!*


*Just so we don't lose, this Al-Qaeda battle  
We watch your every move, from Boston to Seattle!  
If you say "treason," we'll have a reason  
For search and seizin'  
We're always checkin' your Goo-gle!  
You want it private, don't try to hide it  
We're gonna find it  
Checkin' Goo-gle  
We will uncover, each word you utter  
Just like Big Brother  
Because of Blurred Laws!*

*If you start dissin'...Americanism  
You'll go to prison!  
Because of Blurred laws  
Info we're needin', so we're depletin'  
All of your freedom!*

*Everybody 'fess up!*



# THE NRA'S "MORE GUNS" SOLUTION THE FRIGHT TO BEAR ARMS



**the Big**  
**BANG**  
**BANG**  
**BANG**  
**BANG**  
**BANG**  
**BANG**  
**THEORY**

— *A terrified TV critic*



# KNRA-TV



46

ARTIST: SAM SISCO



**WHAT CHEMICAL-  
USING VILLAIN  
COULD NOT BE  
BROUGHT TO  
JUSTICE IN 2013?**

# 20 HERE WE GO WITH A SPECIAL EDITION MAD FOLD-IN

This year, a lot of attention was paid to a power-hungry madman whose strength kept increasing, despite ongoing protests and efforts to stop him. Simply put, he is addicted to power and continually muscles aside anyone who opposes him. Everyone thought this would be his last season in the sun, but he only seems to be getting bigger and more defiant. To find out what despot remains very much at large, fold page in as shown.



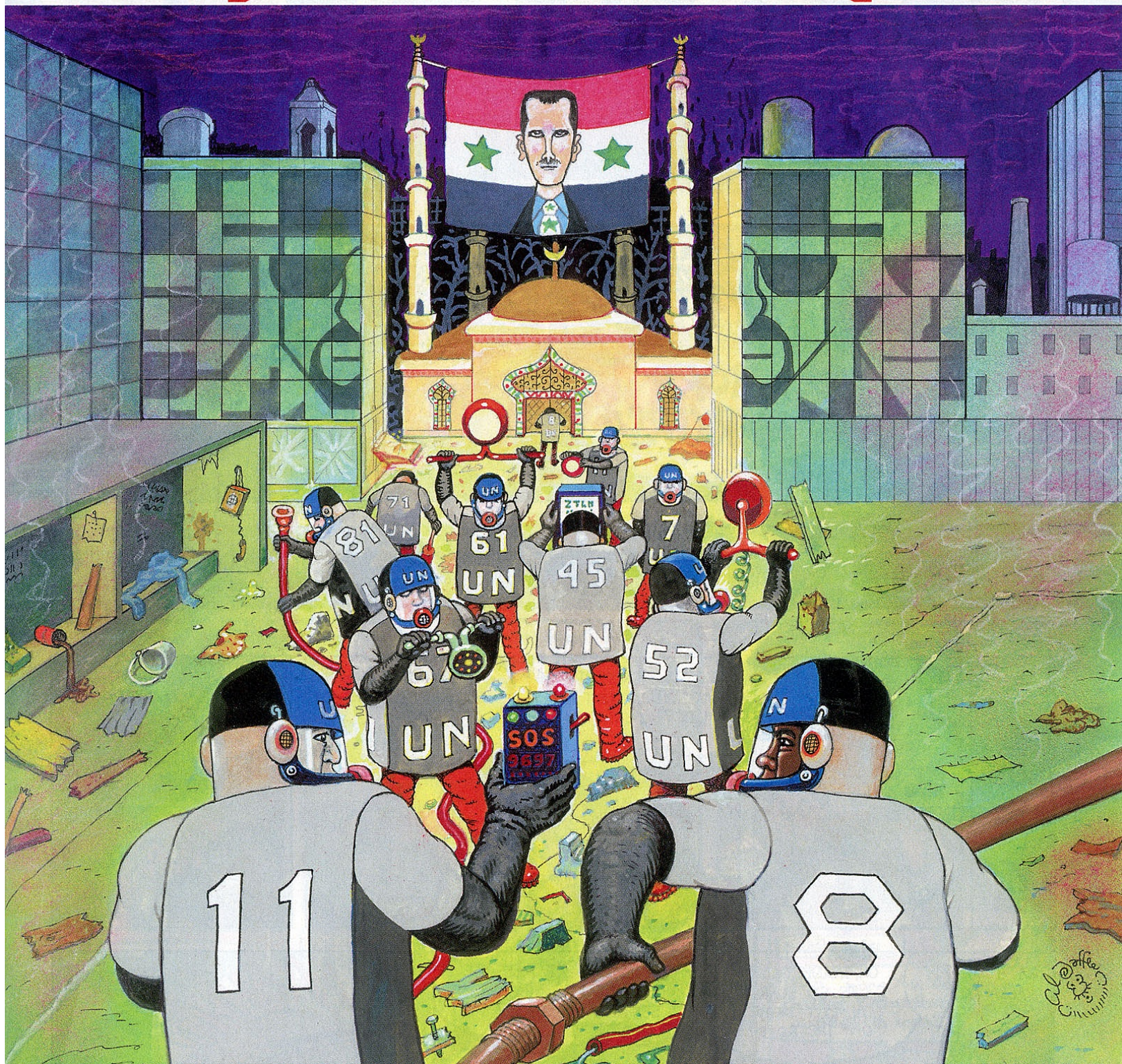
FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

**A**

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

**B**

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



**ALL OF US FEAR CHEMICAL MISUSE. IT'S A COMPLEX  
PROBLEM. WE CAN'T IGNORE IT. IT'D SURELY E-  
RODE THE FABRIC OF SOCIETY. WE NEED TO TAKE RIG-  
OROUS ACTION TO FIGHT THIS AND CONTIN-  
UE BACKGROUND CHECKS ON PEOPLE FROM A TO Z**

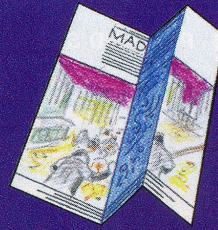
**A**

WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

**B**

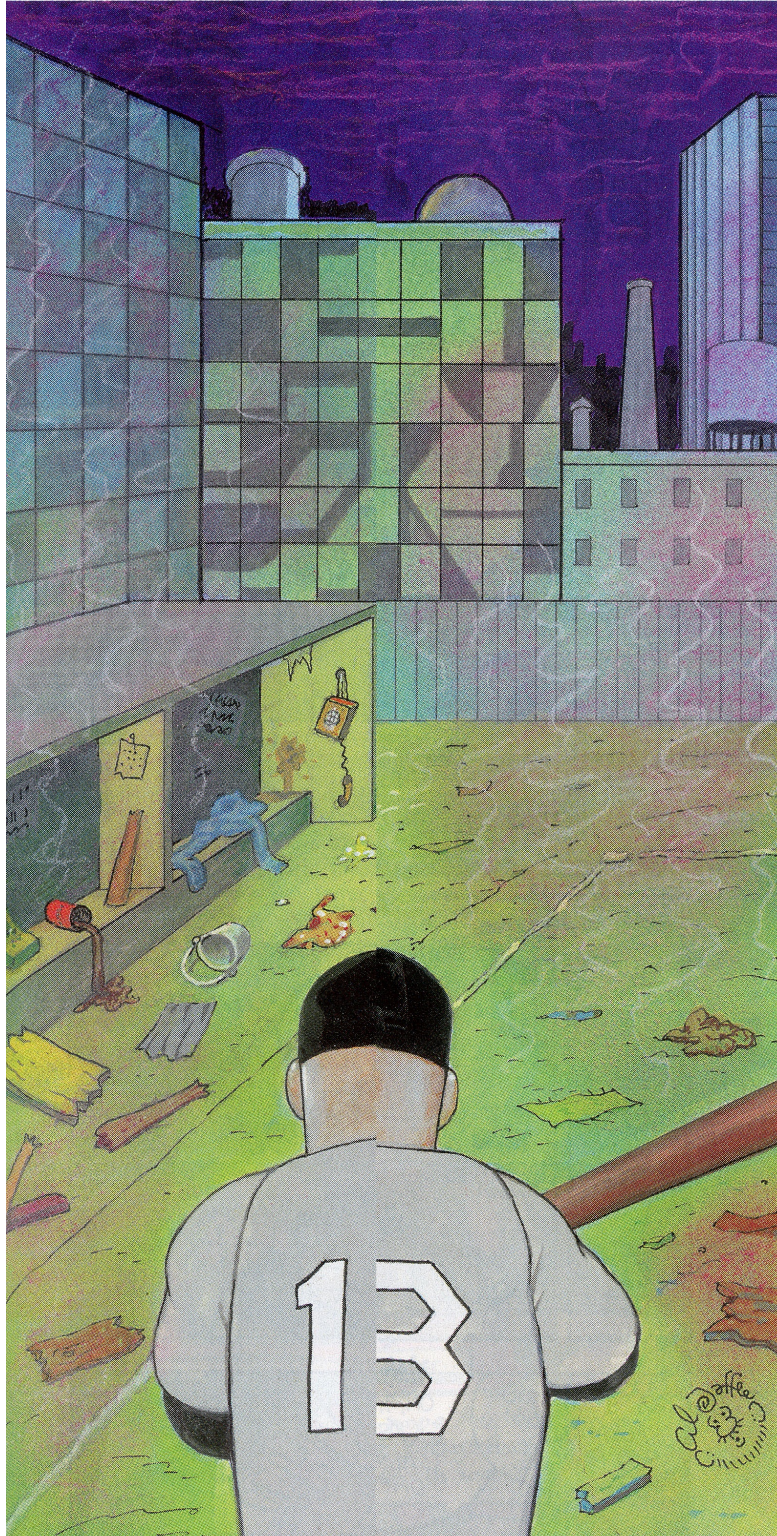


WHAT CHEMICAL-  
USING VILLAIN  
COULD NOT BE  
BROUGHT TO  
JUSTICE IN 2013?



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

**A** **B** FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



ALEX  
RODRIG-

UEZ

**A** **B**



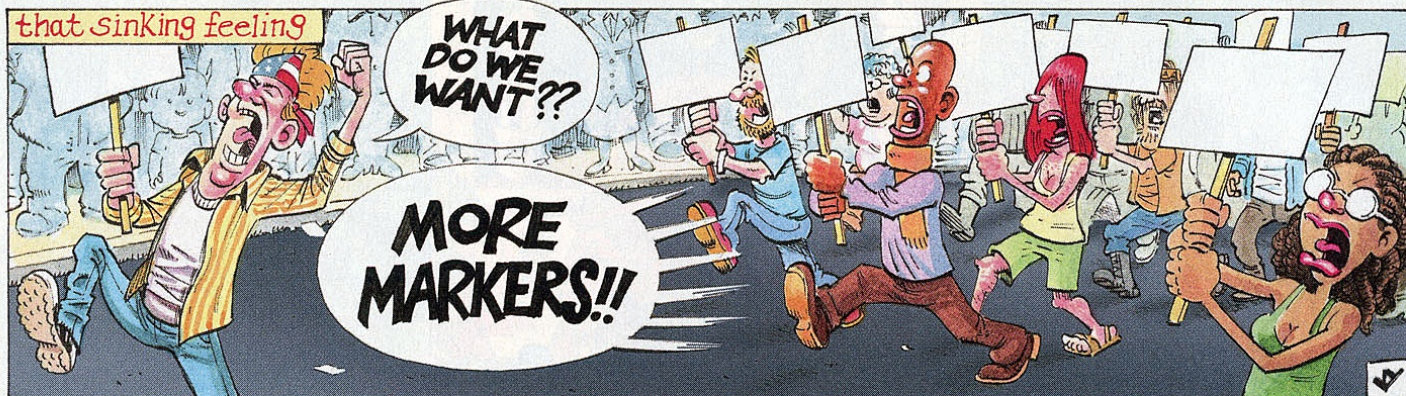


# THE STRIP CLUB

that sinking feeling

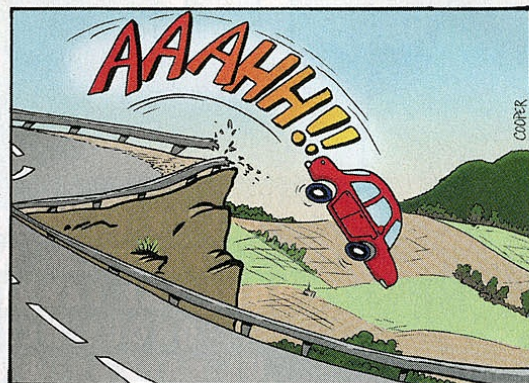
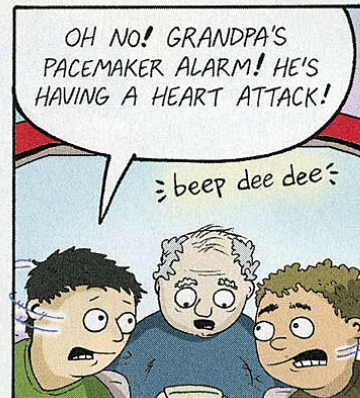
WHAT DO WE WANT??

MORE MARKERS!!



JASON YUNGBLUTH

HOW'S MY DRIVING?



NATHAN COOPER

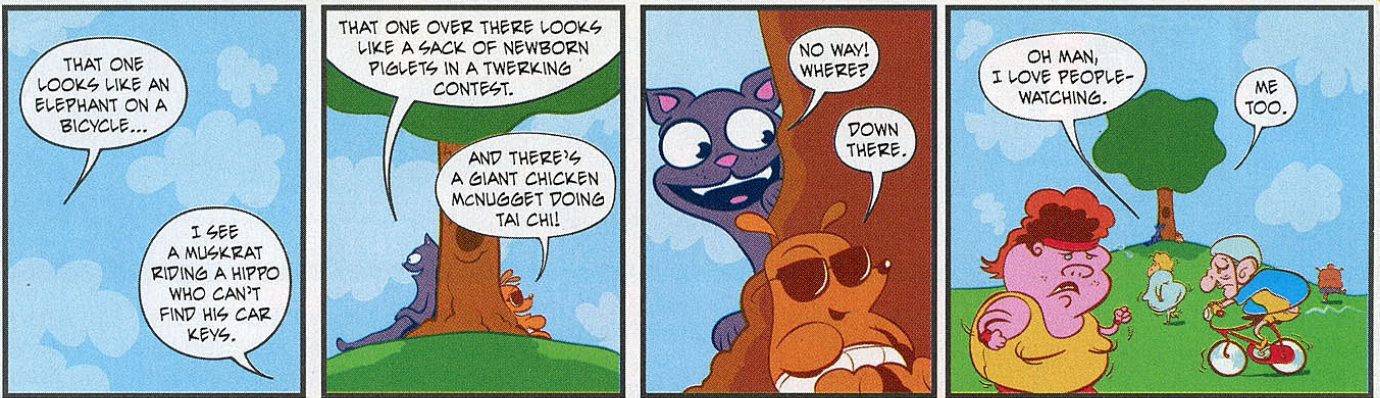


# THE DORK SIDE



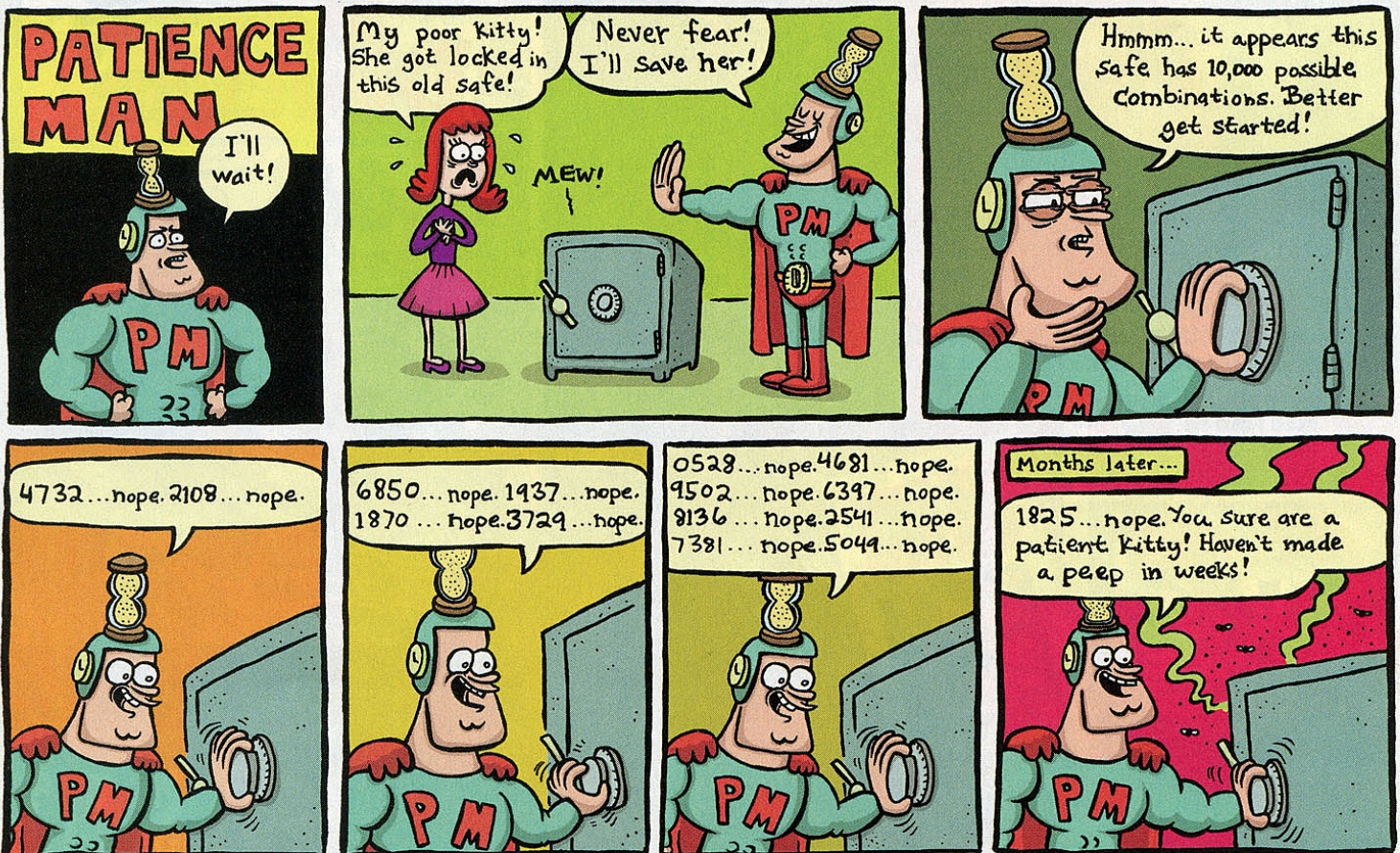
KIT LIVELY & SCOTT NICKEL

# WHAT IF DOG WAS ONE OF US?



KENNY KEIL

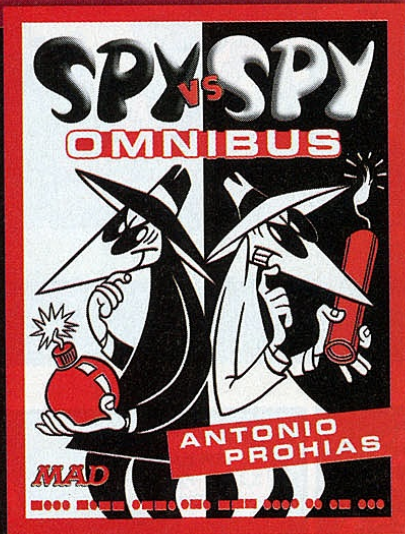
# PATIENCE MAN



DAVID DEGRAND

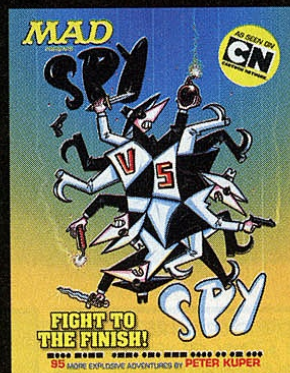


# THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, GIVE

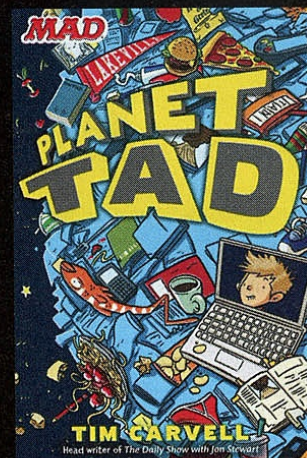


## THE MAD FOLD-IN COLLECTION

## SPY VS. SPY OMNIBUS



## SPY VS. SPY: FIGHT TO THE FINISH!



## MAD'S GREATEST ARTISTS: MORT DRUCKER

## PLANET TAD

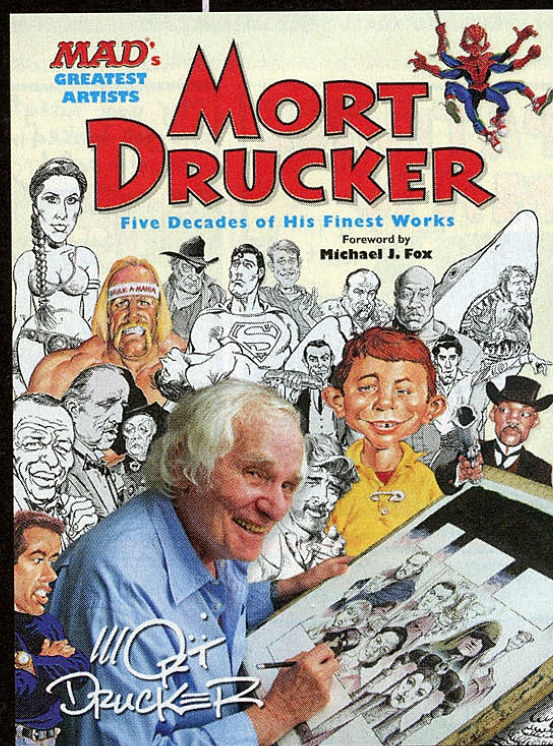
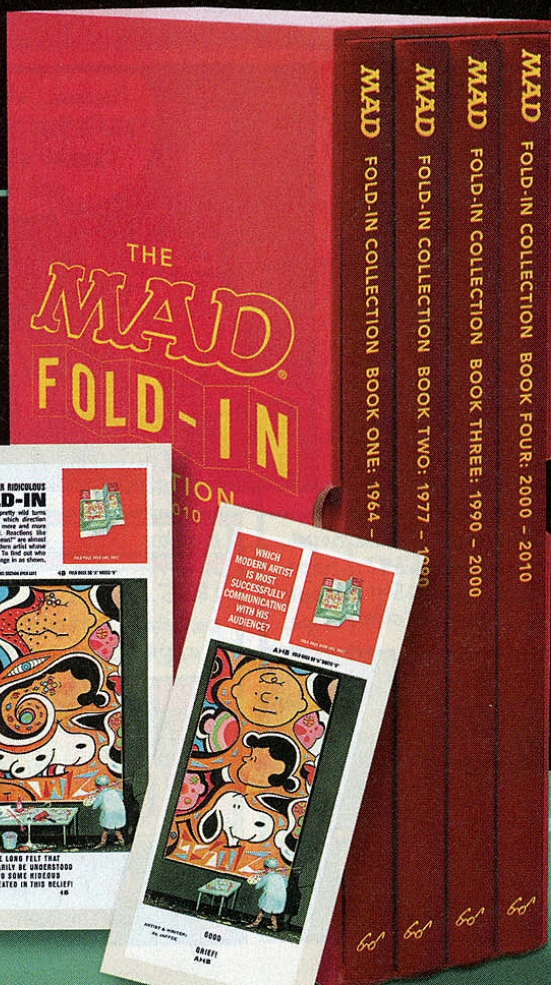
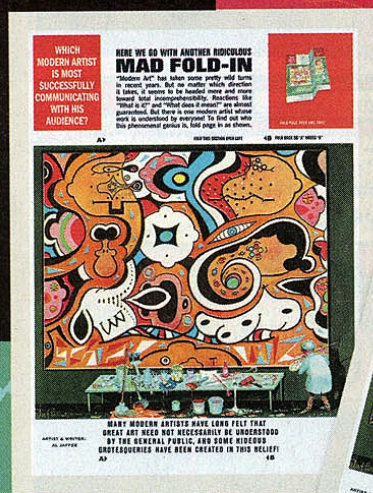
A four-volume set!  
Over 400 Al Jaffee classics!  
Includes a brand-new  
Fold-In created by Al Jaffee  
especially for this collection!

Includes every Antonio Prohias  
Spy vs. Spy adventure!  
All reproduced in their  
full, original size for the  
first time ever!

Special digest size!  
Includes 95  
diabolical adventures  
by Peter Kuper!

Includes many of Mort's greatest  
movie satires plus essays by  
Michael J. Fox, Steven Spielberg,  
J.J. Abrams, and others! Also a  
classic, vintage pull-out poster!

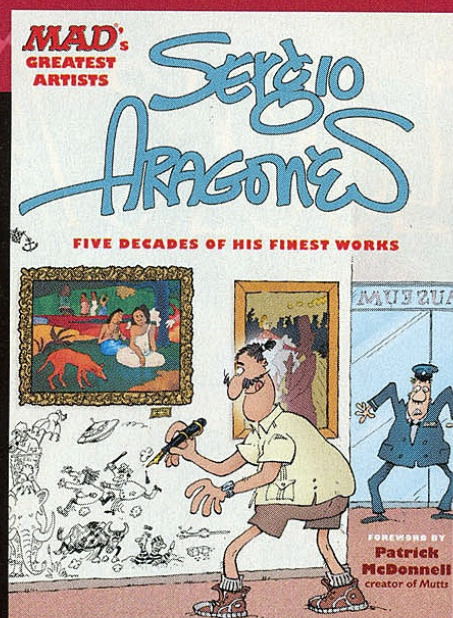
239 pages of all-new  
adventures! From  
the head writer of  
*The Daily Show*  
with Jon Stewart!



# ON SALE



# THE GIFT THAT WILL KEEP ON GIVING (A BAD IMPRESSION)!



## TOTALLY MAD

## MAD'S GREATEST ARTISTS: SERGIO ARAGONES

256 pages celebrating 60 years of humor, satire, stupidity and stupidity! With an introduction by Stephen Colbert and Eric Drysdale and a dozen collectible, classic MAD cover prints!

Includes new, original, never-before-seen Sergio art! Plus an 18"x24" pull-out poster featuring 500 of Sergio's favorite marginals!



## SPY VS. SPY: THE TOP SECRET FILES!

Special digest size!  
Includes 65 explosive adventures by Peter Kuper!

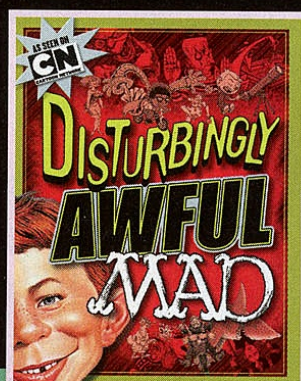
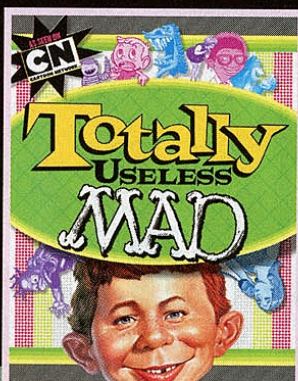
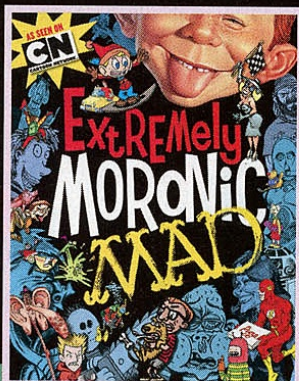
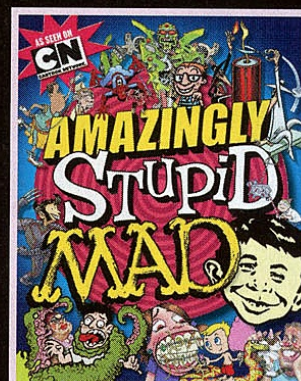
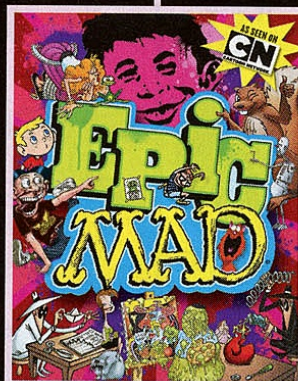
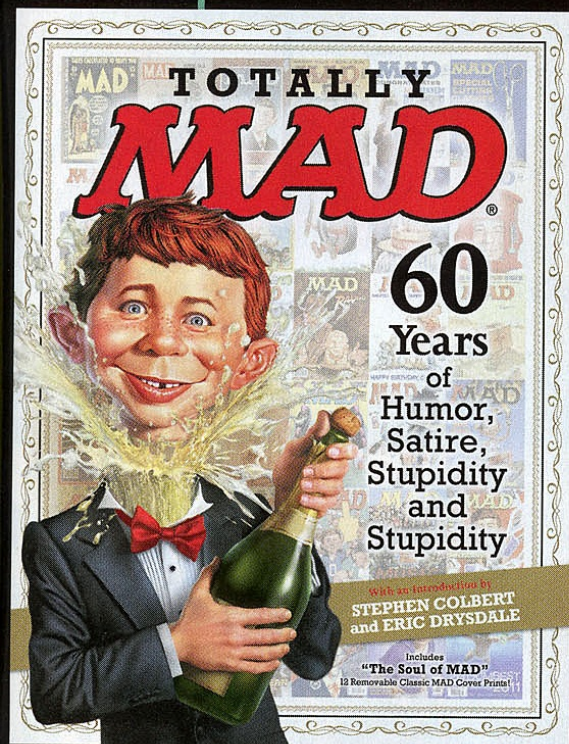


## SPY VS. SPY VOLUME 2

Includes every Spy vs. Spy adventure from 1987-2007!

## AND MORE!

Six wacky collections, perfect for fans of MAD on Cartoon Network!

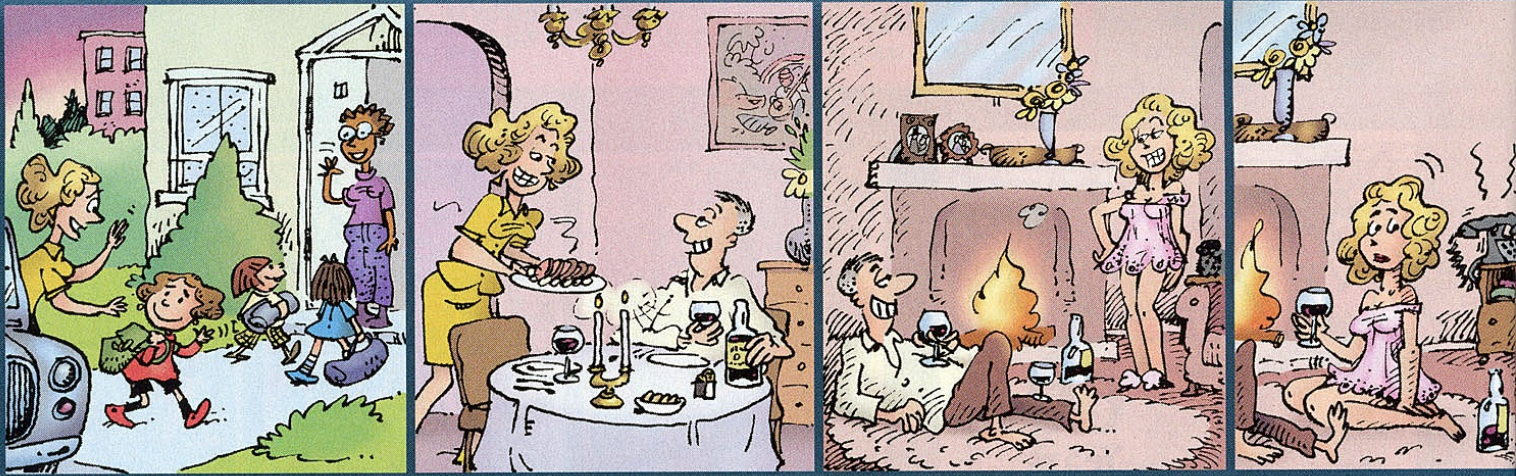
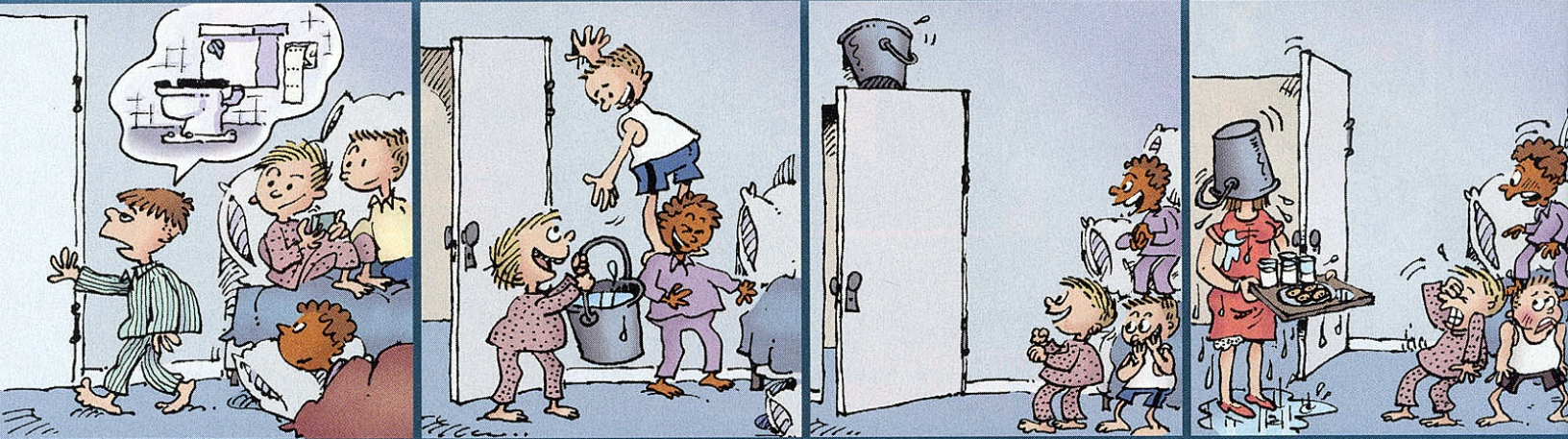


**NOW** IN THE BOOK SECTION OF BOOKSTORES  
WHEREVER BOOKS ARE SOLD — DUH!



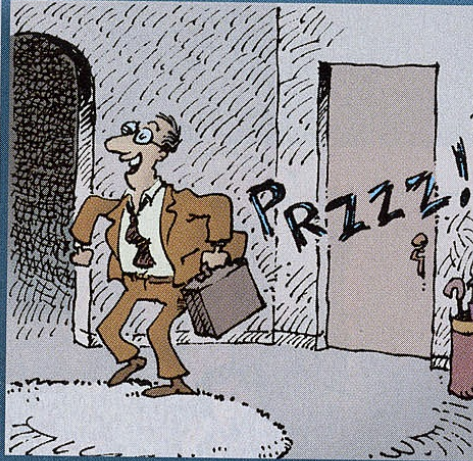
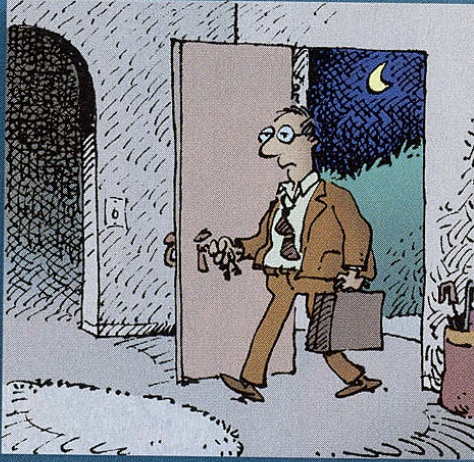
Sergio Aronson  
Presents

# A MAD LOOK AT



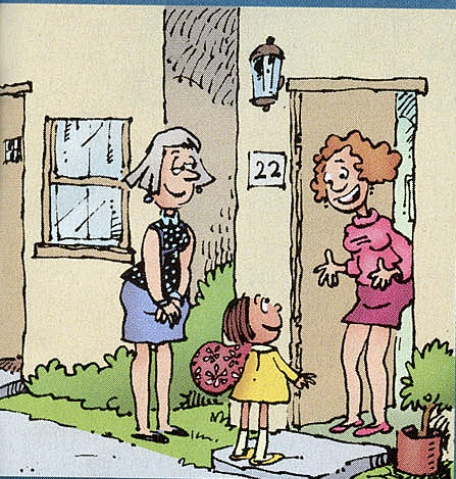
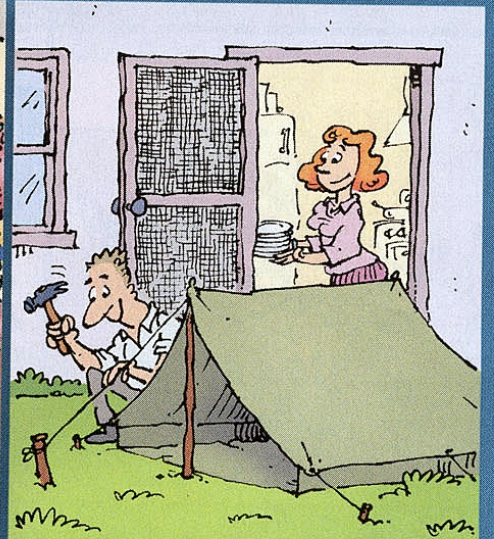
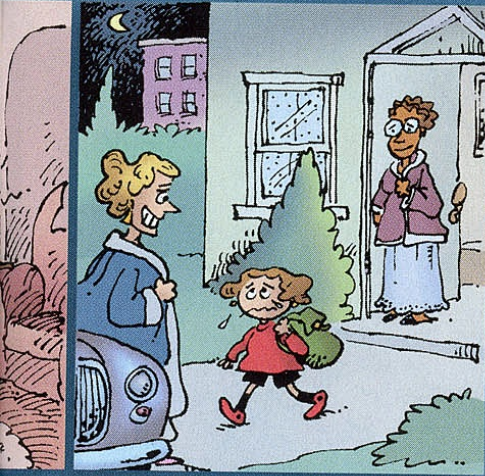


# SLEEPOVERS

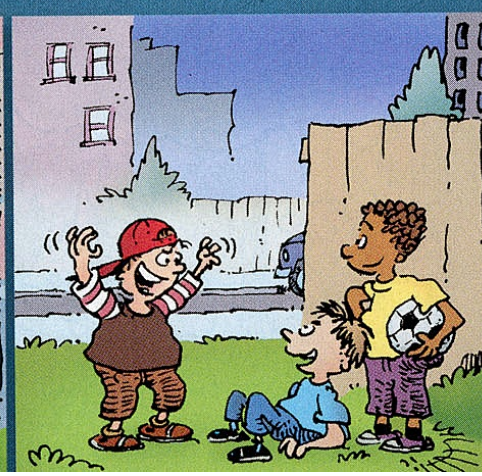
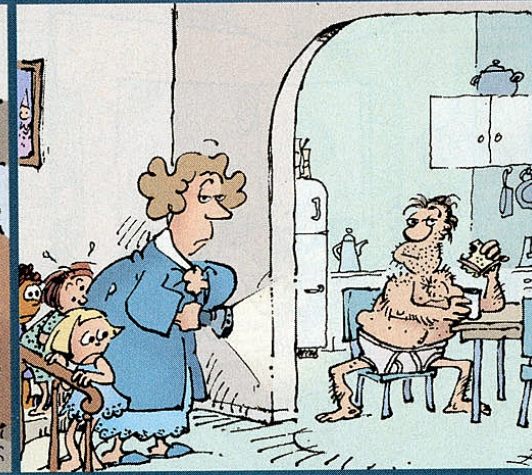
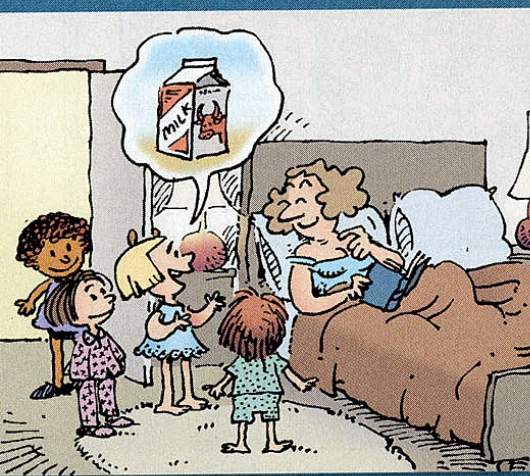
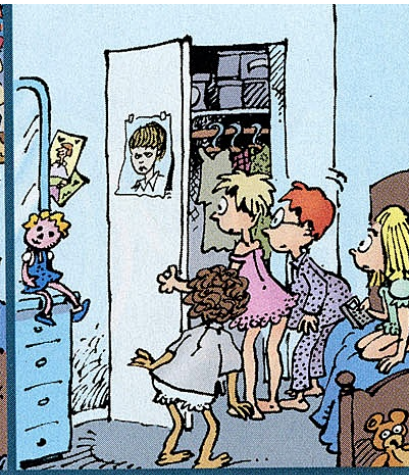


WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONÉS

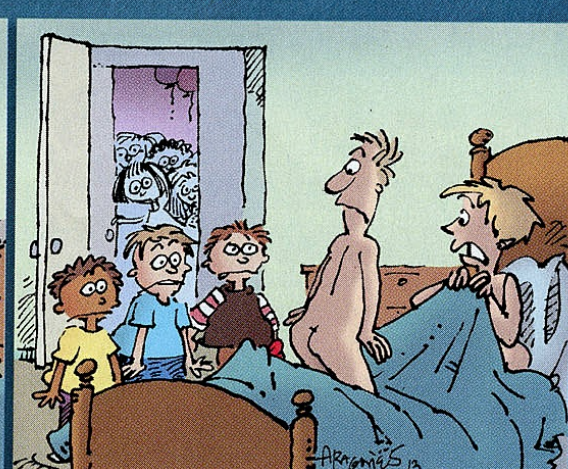
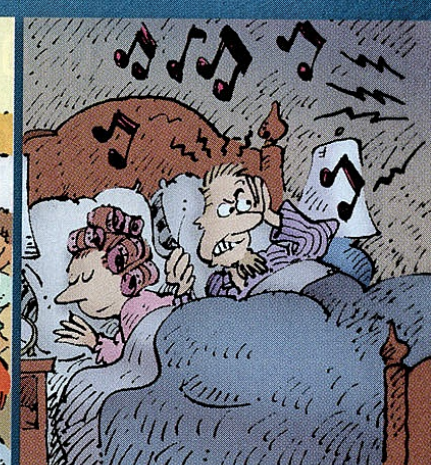
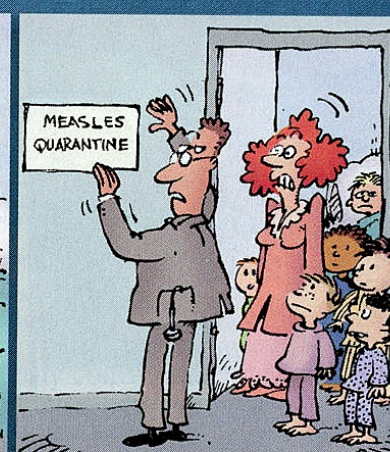
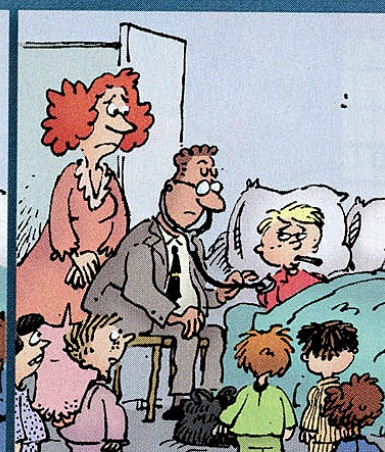
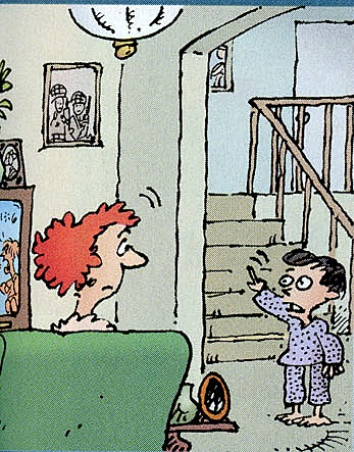
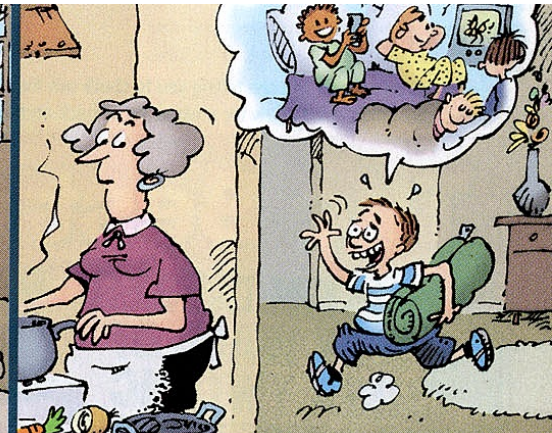
COLORIST: TOM LUTH











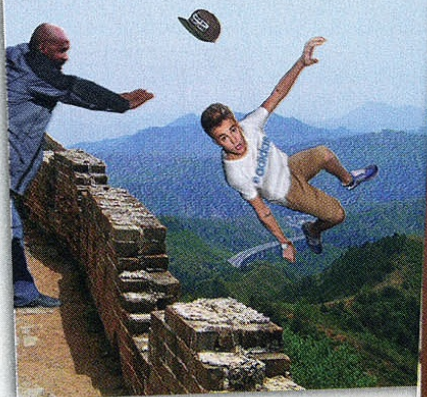




For months now, we've been telling you to check out the MAD blog, The Idiotal, and to "Like" us on Facebook — but have you!?!? Nooooo! (Well, that's not fair...maybe you have — these little intros don't allow for a whole lot of back-and-forth with our readers. Sorry.) Anyhoo — if you haven't checked out The Idiotal yet, here's some of what you've been missing!

# The Best of The Idiotal

## A JUSTIN BIEBER GREAT WALL OF CHINA TWITPIC WE'D LOVE TO SEE



## KIM KARDASHIAN'S BIRTHDAY SELFIE



## EMOJI BIOGRAPHIES

### Lance Armstrong



### Edward Snowden



### Jerry Sandusky



### M. Night Shyamalan



### Chris Brown



The Startling Similarities and Differences Between

## GRAND THEFT AUTO V and the OBAMACARE WEBSITE



Can easily suck up hours of your free time



Highly anticipated release that's been denounced by Conservatives



Transports users to a surreal, nightmarish world where the lives and well-being of others have no worth



Glorifies violence and misogyny under the lame guise of satire



Can be successfully completed



Was lavishly and painstakingly designed by industry-leading experts



Was a runaway success from day one



Hookers, drug dealers and pimps end up getting the worst treatment



Kathleen Sebelius has only a vague understanding of how it works



Prominently features that wily scamp, Pac-Man



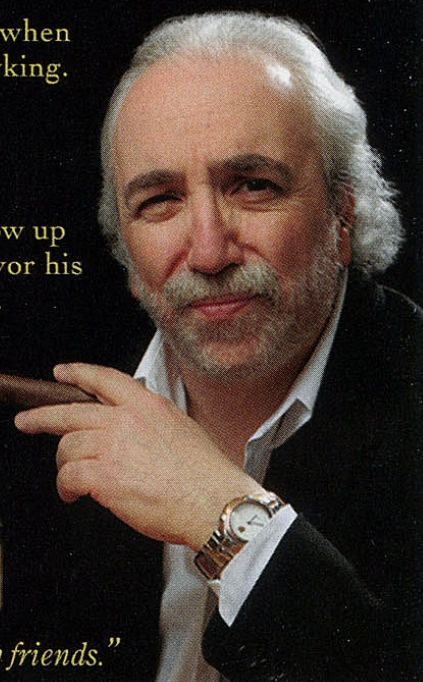
## Dos Equis presents Fascinating Facts about The least Interesting Man in the World

He has to "dumb it down" when chatting with Stephen Hawking.

As a Catholic altar boy, he once molested a priest.

His dinner guests often throw up in their own mouths, to savor his fine cooking all over again.

"I don't always drink beer, but when I do, it's usually because I didn't call my sponsor."

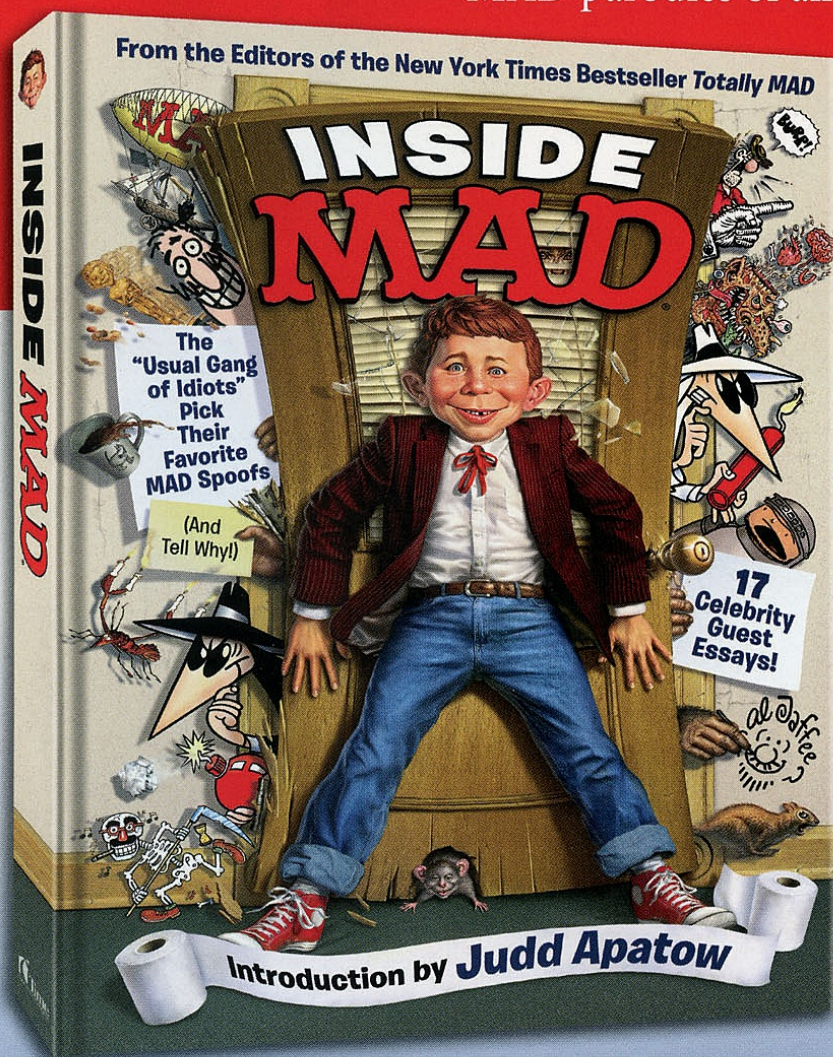


"STAY WASTED, my friends."



# Go Behind the Scenes at MAD!

Get *Inside MAD* for a rare look into the twisted minds of the editors, writers, and artists! "The Usual Gang of Idiots" and celebrity fans share their favorite MAD parodies of all time.



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*Totally MAD*

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- Ken Burns
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